ACTION COMICS

極道めし

2

土山しげる

協力・大西祥平

ACTION COMICS

極道めし

GOKUDOU MESHI

協力・大西祥平

土山しげる

2

BY SHIGERU TSUCHIYAMA
IN COOPERATION WITH SHOUHEI ONISHI

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RISKING LIFE FOR BOTAMOCHI (PART 1)

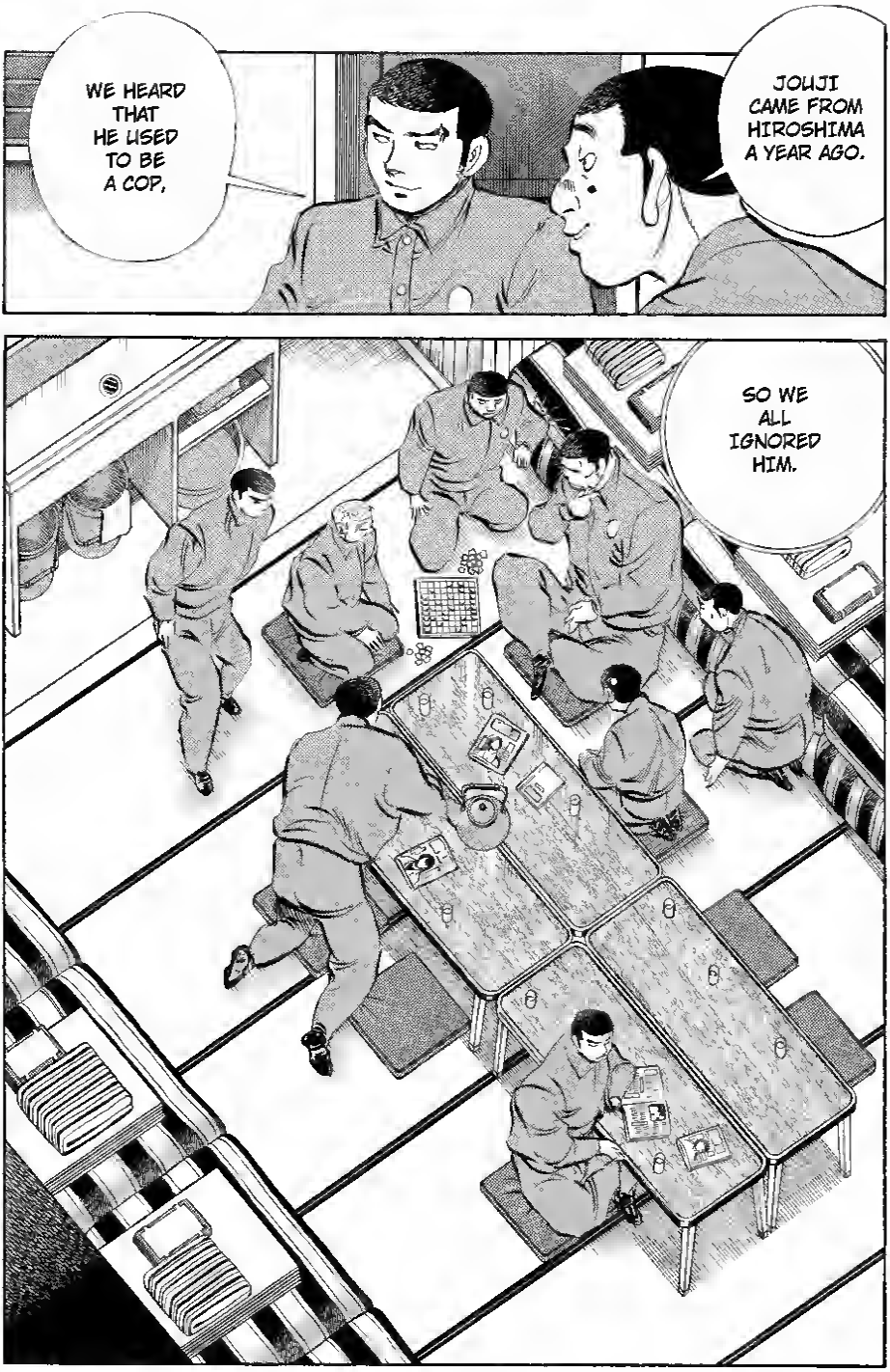
第九話○命懸けのボタ餅(上)

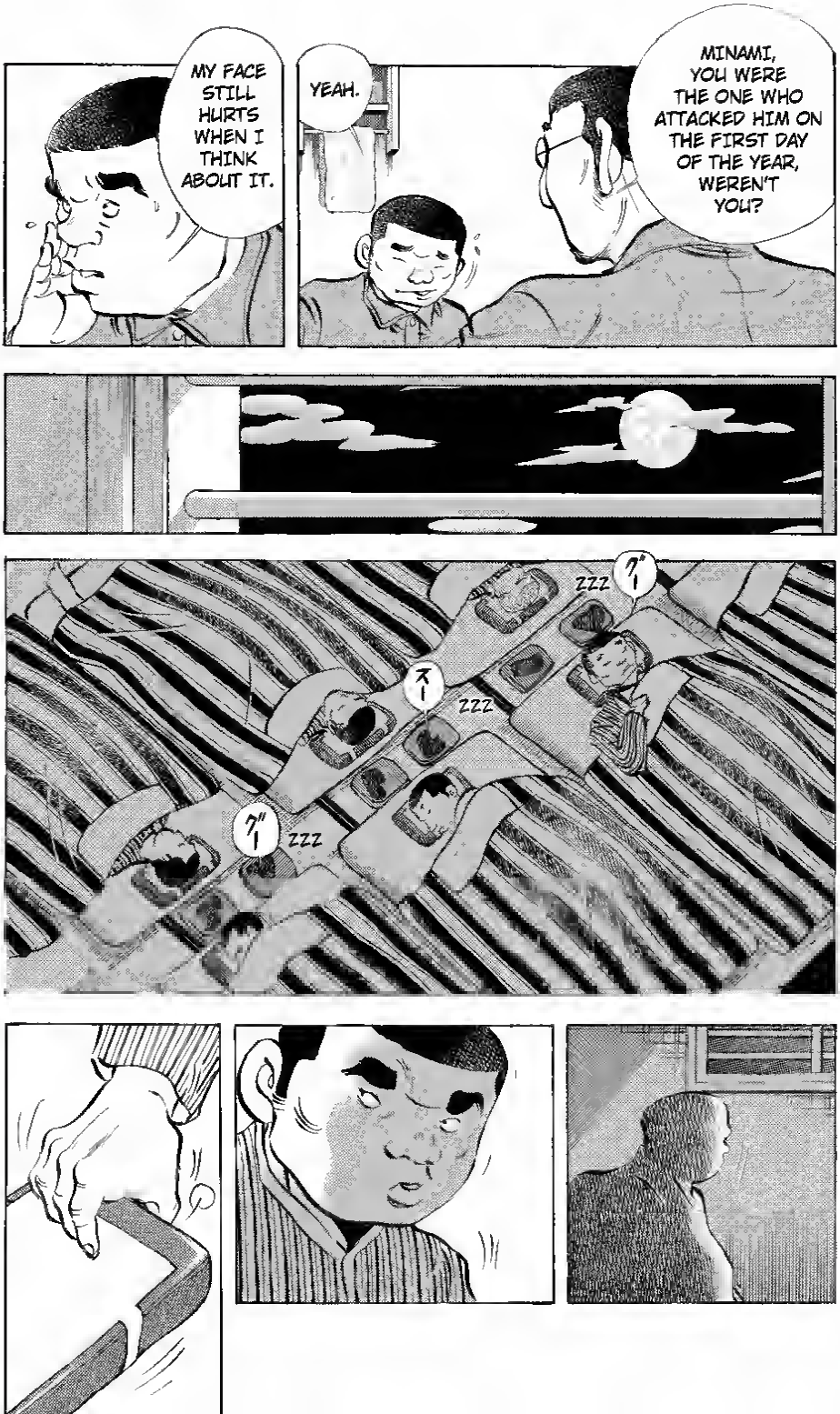
キュ
ジャボ
FWISSHH
ジャボ
ジャボ
GULP
ゴキュ
GULP
ゴキュ
SAKATA'S STORY COMPLETELY GOT US.
WE WERE TOTALLY DECEIVED.

HOW'S YOUR GRANDMA DOING?
EY
EY
WHISPER
MY STORYTELLING TECHNIQUE ISN'T BAD AT ALL, HUH?
HEH HEH.
GASP
TEN YEARS AGO...
ALRIGHT! JOUJI AND AIDA ARE THE ONLY ONES LEFT!
LET'S DO THIS!

I'M GOING FIRST.
THIS IS JOUJI'S FIRST TIME?
WHAT !?
FINALLY! IT'S JOUJI'S FIRST STORY!
YEP.
HE WAS JUST AN OBSERVER LAST YEAR.
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF FOOD HE'S GONNA' TALK ABOUT.

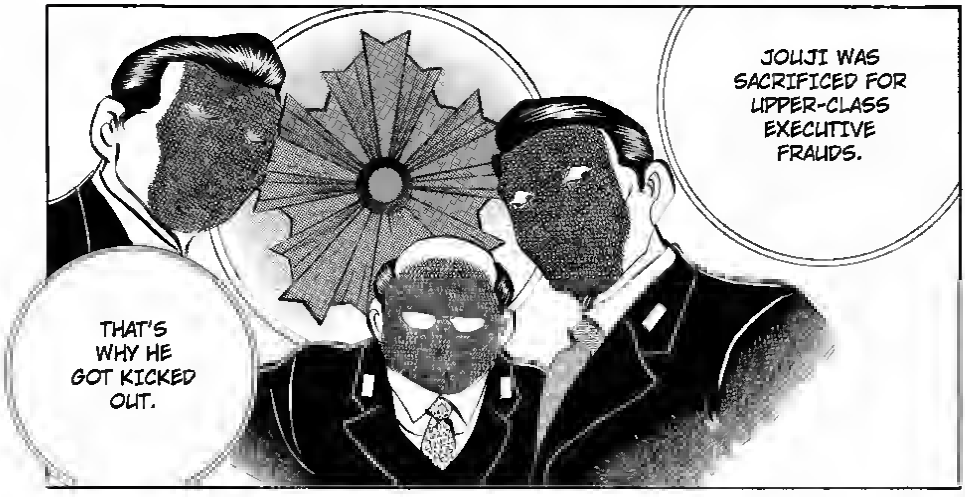
YOU DID?
I MEAN, WE KEPT HIM OUT OF THIS.
BECAUSE...
JOUJI USED TO BE A COP.
ズ・・
SLURP
MOREOVER, HE WAS A DETECTIVE.
HE BECAME A SHARK.
THAT'S AFTER HE GOT KICKED OUT OF THE FORCE.
WHAT?
I THOUGHT HE WAS A LOAN SHARK.


WE HEARD THAT HE USED TO BE A COP,
JOUJI CAME FROM HIROSHIMA A YEAR AGO.
SO WE ALL IGNORED HIM.


MY FACE STILL HURTS WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT.
YEAH.
MINAMI, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO ATTACKED HIM ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR, WEREN'T YOU?
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ

ボコッ
BAM!
I HATE COPS A HUNDRED TIMES OVER!

PUNCH
ボカッ
I HATE THE POLICE A THOUSAND TIMES MORE THAN YOU DO!
ボカッ
PUNCH
ボカッ


JOUJI WAS SACRIFICED FOR UPPER-CLASS EXECUTIVE FRAUDS.
THAT'S WHY HE GOT KICKED OUT.

BUT HE OVEREXTENDED HIMSELF AND WAS CAUGHT BY POLICE.
THEN HE DECIDED TO MOVE UP IN THE UNDERGROUND AND JOINED THE BLACK MARKET.

HE'S TOLD US THE INSIDE STORIES AND STRATEGIES OF THE POLICE.
NOW HE IS THE MOST ESSENTIAL MAN IN ROOM 204.
WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE THAT DAY.

I DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT,
SO I JOINED IN AS A REFEREE.

I SEE...

WHY DIDN'T YOU JOIN THE OSECHI BATTLE LAST YEAR?
BUT,

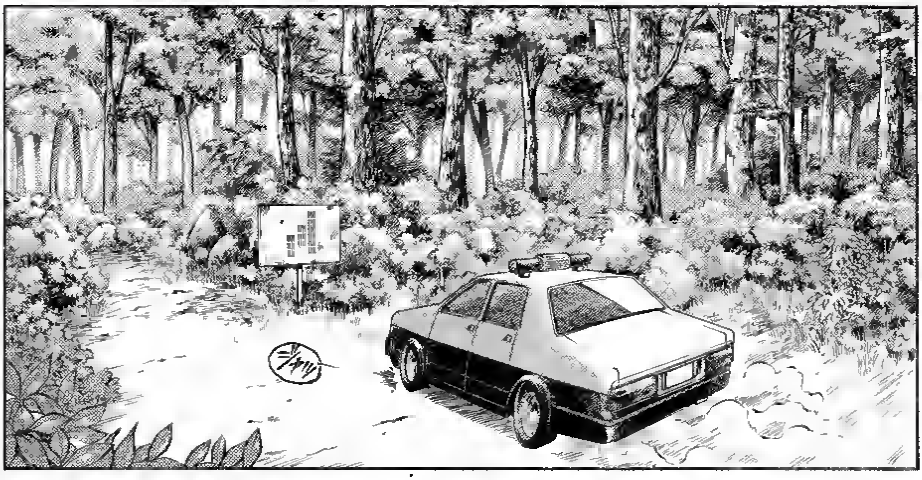
I WAS REALLY SURPRISED BY THEIR DELICIOUS FOOD STORIES.
LAST YEAR'S BEST STORY CAME FROM THAT MAN!

YOU CAN BEGIN YOUR STORY NOW.
OKAY,
I'VE NEVER FELT SO HUNGRY IN MY LIFE!
IT WAS SOON AFTER I WAS TRANSFERED TO A POLICE STATION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF OKAYAMA.
I WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT AT THE OFFICE WHILE EVERYONE ELSE WAS OFF DEALING WITH A BIG CRIME CASE.
THIS IS THE POLICE.
WHAT!?
A ROBBERY!?

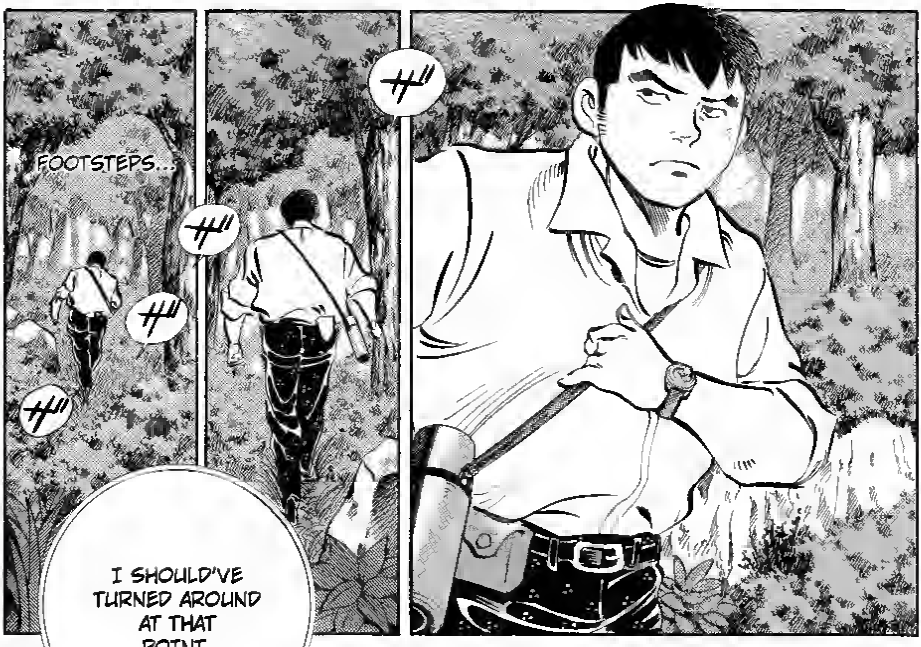
WEREN'T THERE ANY LOCAL COPS TO DEAL WITH IT?
IT HAPPENED AT A SMALL FARM 18 MILES OUT FROM THE POLICE STATION.
THEY WERE ALL NAPPING AFTER LUNCH.
I GRABBED A THERMOS OF WATER ON MY WAY OUT AND HEADED ON OVER.
THAT AREA WAS PRETTY RURAL, SO THERE WOULDN'T'VE BEEN ANYWHERE TO STOP AND BUY SOMETHING.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU WANTED TO GO HIKING.
WHY'D YOU NEED A THERMOS?
ブオン
BRRR

THEY STOLE A CHECKBOOK AND 20,000 YEN IN CASH.
THE VICTIM SAW THE SUSPECT AND CLEARLY REMEMBERED HIS FACE.
AS I TOOK DOWN HIS CHARACT-ERISTICS I STARTED TO RECOGNIZE HIM...

THE VICTIM SAW HIM RUNNING AWAY INTO THE MOUNTAIN.
指名手配犯
猪熊 虎夫
IT WAS A MAN THAT HAD TWENTY ACCOUNTS OF ROBBERY ON HIS CRIMINAL RECORD.
NORMALLY I WOULD CALL FOR BACKUP,
BUT I WANTED TO EXPLOIT THE SITUATION SO I WENT AFTER HIM BY MYSELF.
BRRR
ブオオオ

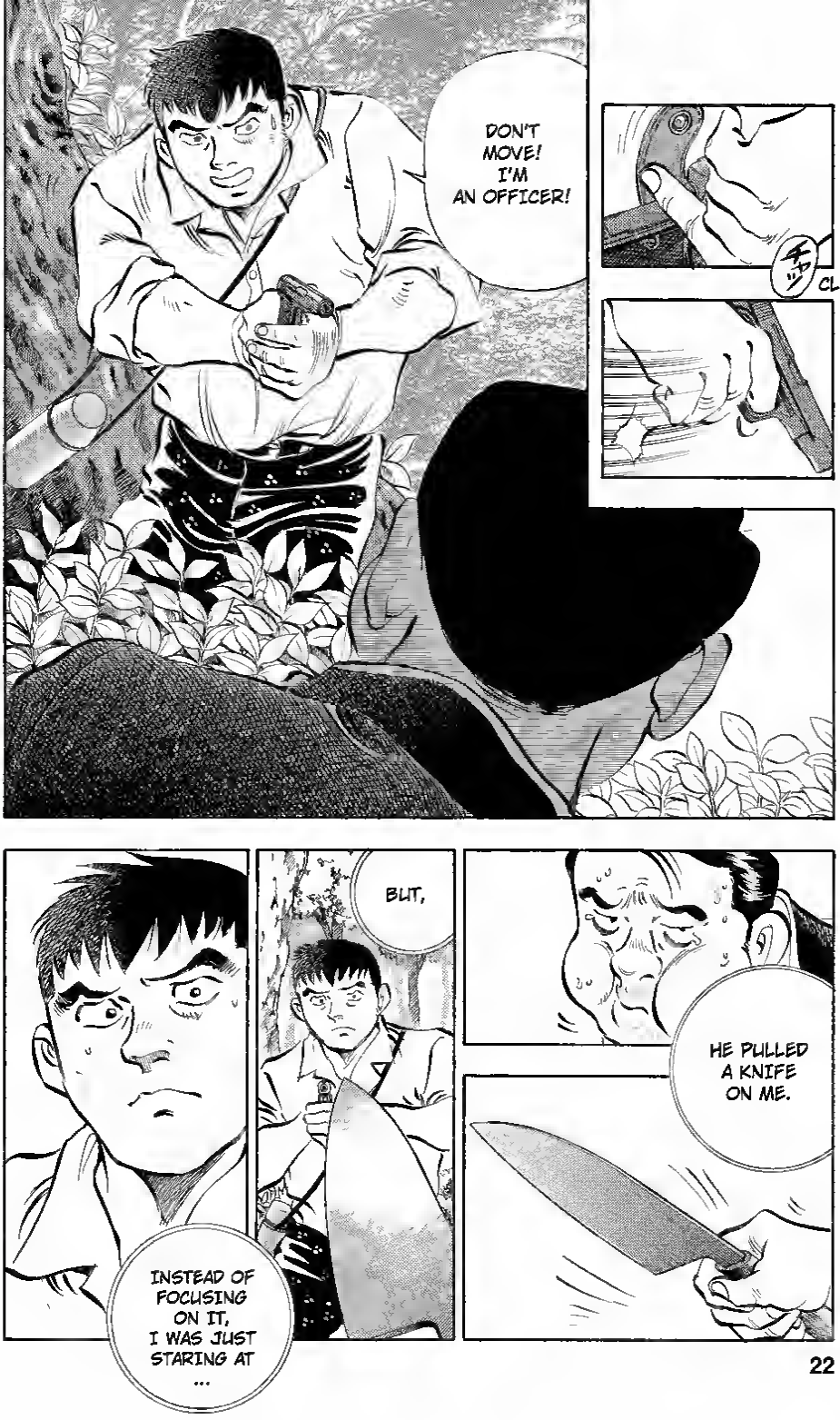


NO
TRESPASSING


FOOTSTEPS...
I SHOULD'VE TURNED AROUND AT THAT POINT.

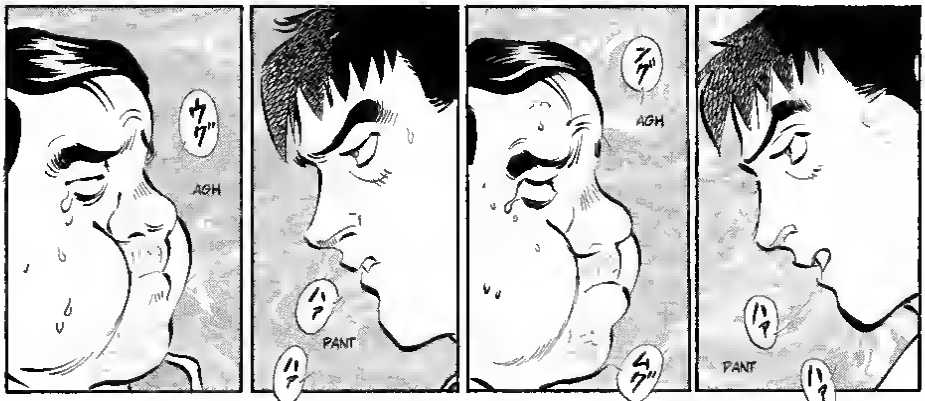
AFTER AN HOUR OF SEARCHING ON THE MOUNTAIN,
I HAD NO IDEA WHICH WAY WAS RIGHT OR LEFT ANYMORE...
AND...
ガサ
ガサ
SO I WAS STARTING TO GET REALLY HUNGRY.
グゥ～
RUMBLING
キュ
I HADN'T EATEN LUNCH YET,
GULP
ゴク

I WAS GETING DIZZY AND FEELING FAINT...
I FELT LIKE I WAS STARVING.
STAGGER
AT THAT MOMENT!
AGH
AGH
I FOUND THE CRIMINAL, JUST 10 FEET AWAY FROM ME!!


DON'T MOVE! I'M AN OFFICER!
カチッ
CLICK
BUT,
HE PULLED A KNIFE ON ME.
INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON IT, I WAS JUST STARING AT ...

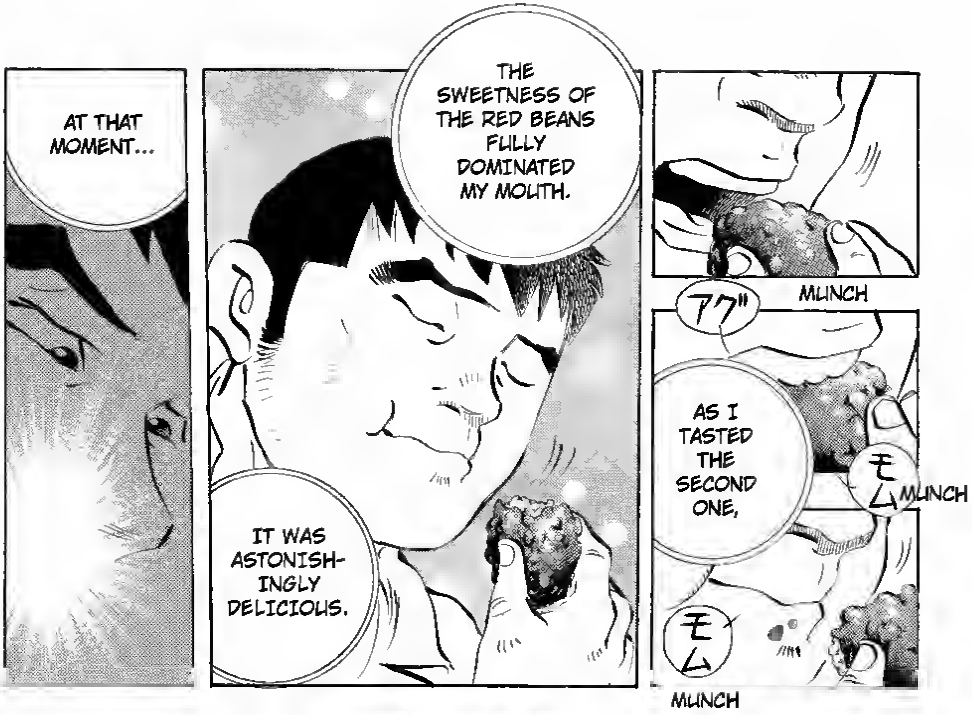
THE BOTAMOCHI IN HIS OTHER HAND.
THE OFFER-INGS HAVE DISAPPEARED!

HE WAS STARING AT MY THERMOS,
RUMBLING
AND I COULDN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF THE BOTAMOCHI.


AGH
PANT
AGH
PANT

キュ
キュ
OPEN
WE WERE AT OUR LIMIT.
スススッ…
AWAY
ゴ"キュ
GULP
REGARDLESS OF OUR TITLES AS CRIMINAL OR OFFICER,
AWAY
スス…
WE MADE A TRADE: HIS BOTAMOCHI FOR MY THERMOS OF WATER.
ゴ"ク
GULP

MUNCH
I WAS NEARLY SHOVING IT DOWN MY THROAT.
MUNCH
MUNCH
AND I IMMEDIATELY GRABBED THE SECOND ONE!
I TOOK A LARGE BITE AND ATE THE BOTAMOCHI LIKE A SAVAGE!
MUNCH!


AT THAT MOMENT...
THE SWEETNESS OF THE RED BEANS FULLY DOMINATED MY MOUTH.
IT WAS ASTONISH-INGLY DELICIOUS.
MUNCH
アグ"
AS I TASTED THE SECOND ONE,
モムMUNCH
モム
MUNCH

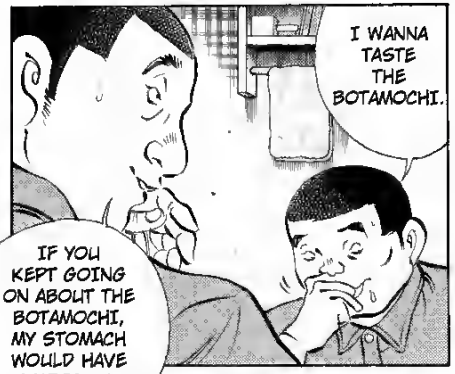
THE KNIFE RE-APPEARED, RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY FACE.

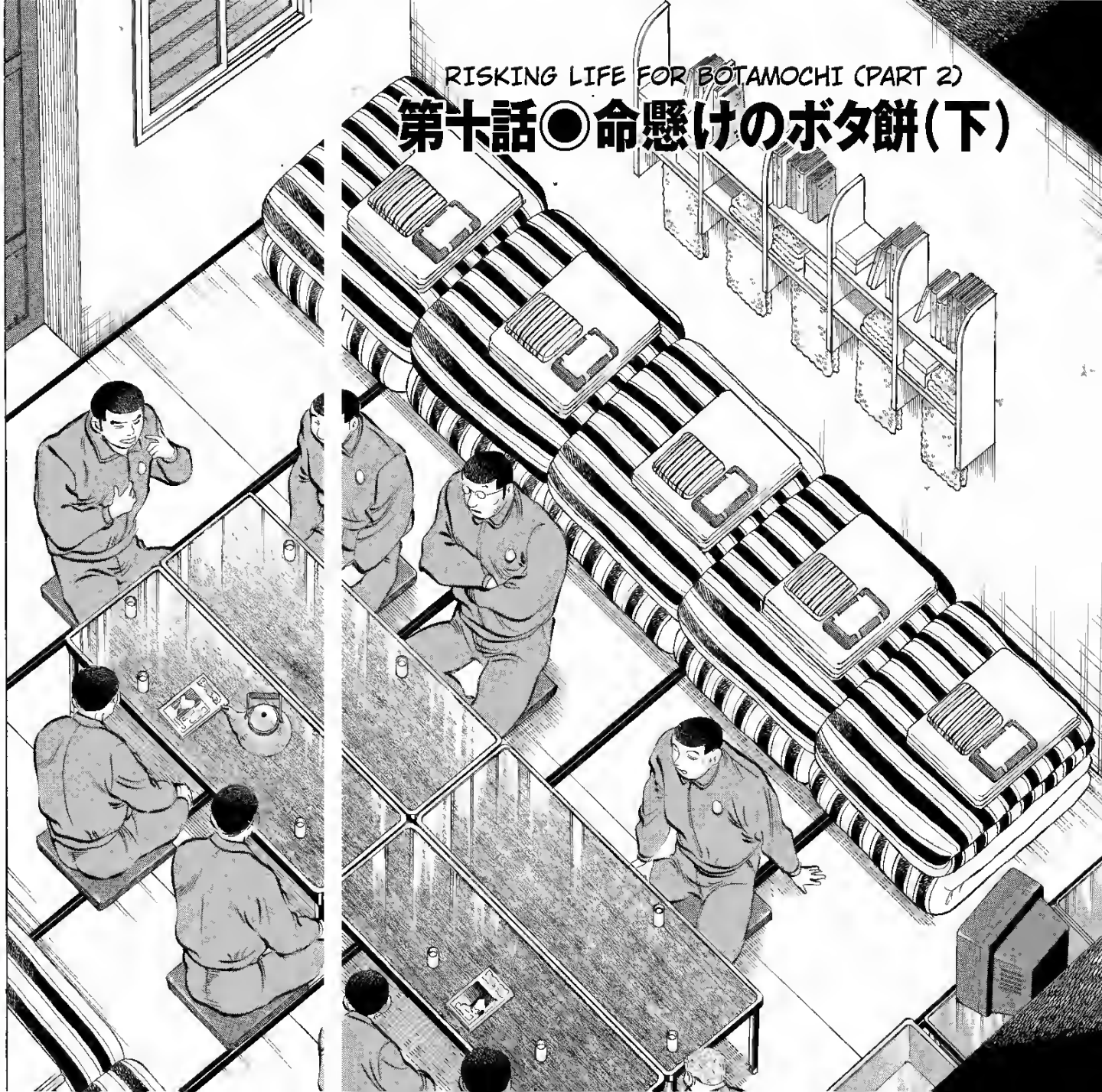
第九話◉終

I WAS FRANTICALLY EATING THE STOLEN BOTAMOCHI.
-RISKING LIFE FOR BOTAMOCHI (PART 2)
第十話◉命懸けのボタ餅(下)
WHILE I WAS STILL EATING...
HE POINTED HIS KNIFE AT ME AGAIN.
IT WAS INCREDIBLY DELICIOUS!
THE RED BEANS' SWEETNESS DOMINATED MY MOUTH.
モム
CHEW
モム
CHEW

RISKING LIFE FOR BOTAMOCHI (PART 2)

第十話◉命懸けのボタ餅(下)





IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET FRESH BOTAMOCHI IN THIS PRISON.
MINE TOO.
GET BACK TO YOUR STORY NOW.
JOUJI,
ゴッ
BLOW
AWW! I WANNA EAT SOMETHING SWEET!
I WANT! I WANT!
ARAKI, WHY ARE YOU SWEATING SO MUCH?
JUST IMAGINING IT CAN MAKE ME SWEAT AND HAVE AN ITCHY NOSE, AND EVENTUALLY I GET A HEADACHE.
I HAVE AN ALLERGY TO SWEET RED BEANS.

I DON'T REALLY LIKE MONAKA SKINS.
THEY STICK TO MY UPPER JAW.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
I CAN EAT STRAINED BEAN PASTE, BUT NOT THE MASHED TYPE.
THAT'S ENOUGH TALKING ABOUT SWEETS.
JOUJI, CONTINUE.
IT WAS MY FAULT FOR NOT PAYING ATTENTION.
THE CRIMINAL, INOKUMA, WAS POINTING HIS KNIFE AT ME.
HE WAS STANDING NEXT TO ME,
WITH MY THERMOS HANGING ON HIS SHOULDER.

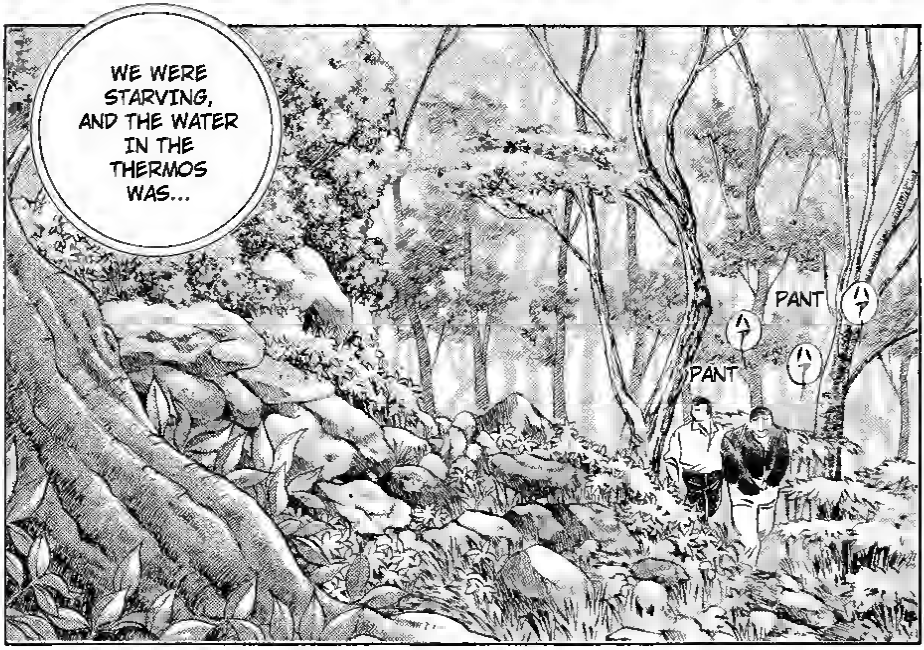
AFTER DRINKING ENOUGH WATER, HE DEMANDED HIS BOTAMOCHI BACK.
GIVE ME BACK MY BOTAMOCHI.
GIVE IT TO ME NOW!
GULP
I FINISHED EATING THE BOTAMOCHI IN MY HAND,
TOSS
AND FEELING GUILTY, I THREW THE REST OF THE BOTAMOCHI INTO THE AIR.

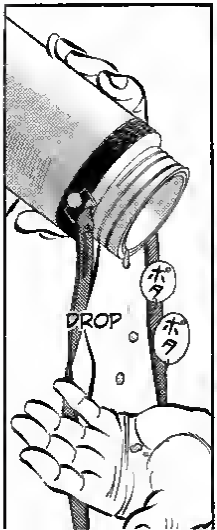
SEARCH
ガサガサ
UH
クッ
FABRIQUE NATIONALE D'ARME de GUERRE
BROWNING'S PATENT
THE SHOE IS ON THE OTHER FOOT NOW!

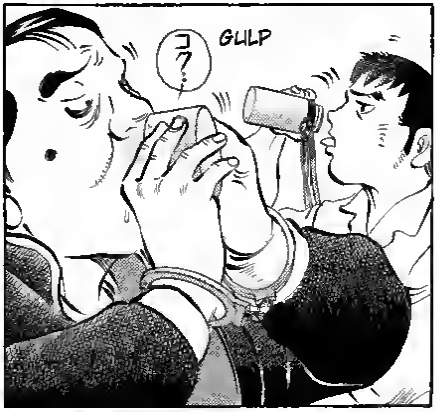
UH...
THIS GAME IS OVER.
SMASH
ロバキッ
HEH HEH ...

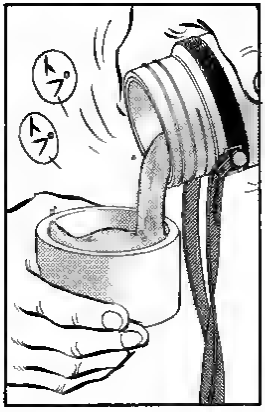
SPLIT...
BASTARD!
I WAS GONNA' SPLIT THEM.
UGH
SPIT
SPIT
I WANTED TO BRING INOKUMA TO THE POLICE STATION ASAP, BUT...
WE WERE COMPLETELY LOST IN THE FOREST.

PANT
PANT
WE WALKED AND WALKED, BUT WE COULDN'T FIND A STREET.

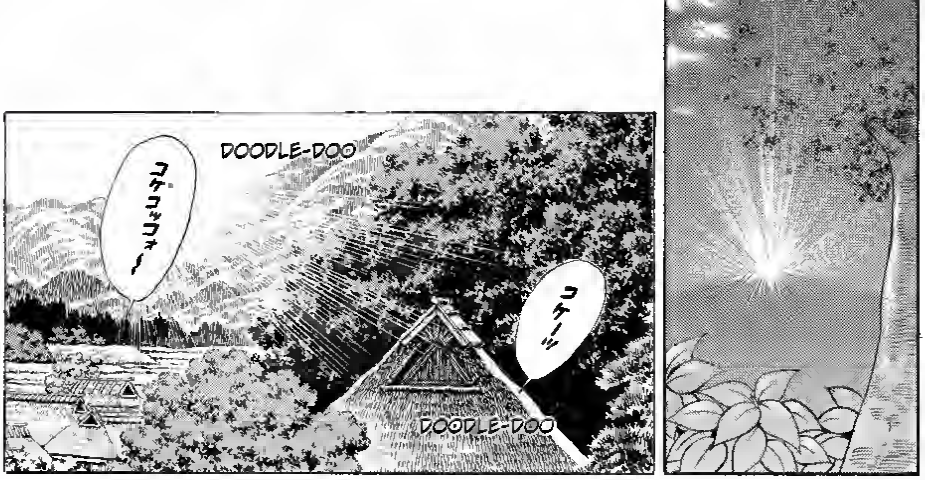

WE WERE STARVING, AND THE WATER IN THE THERMOS WAS...
PANT
PANT

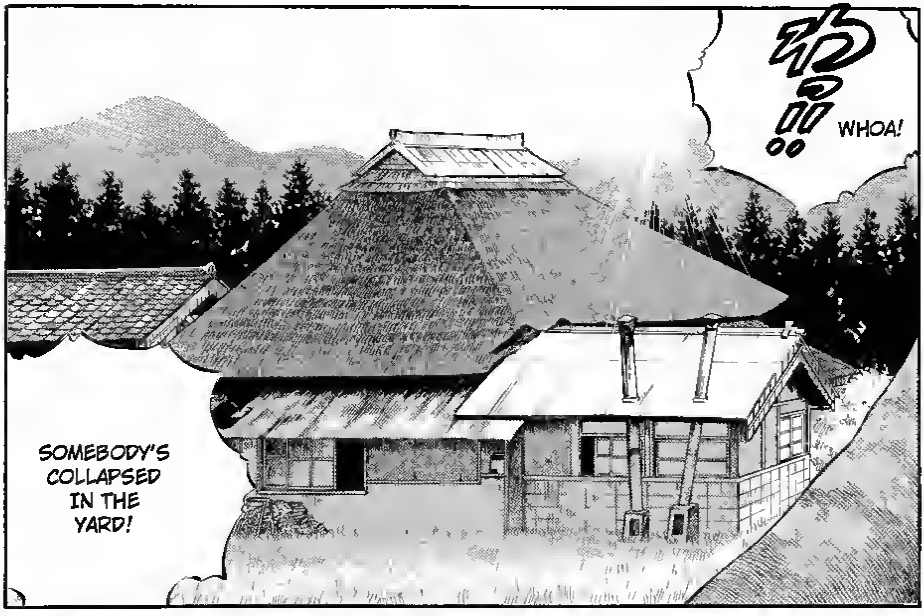

DROP


GULP



ホー
ホー
THE DAY TURNED TO NIGHT.
ホー
ホー
AND WE REACHED THE LIMIT OF OUR EXHAUSTION.
PANT
PANT
PANT
I FAINTED AND...
FELL TO THE GROUND.
I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA' DIE LIKE THAT.
THUD


DOODLE-DOO
DOODLE-DOO


WHOA!
SOMEBODY'S COLLAPSED IN THE YARD!

ARE THEY DEAD?
POKE THEM A BIT!

POKE
POKE
THIS ONE TOO.
AHH! HE'S IN HANDCUFFS!
UH...
HE'S ALIVE!
WE BARELY SURVIVED!
WE FAINTED IN THE FARMER'S YARD.
ME TOO!
JOUJI'S STORY MADE ME THIRSTY.
PASS AROUND THE TEA POT.
GULP
RUSH

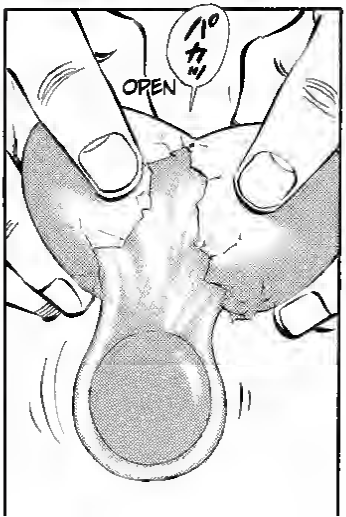
DON'T GET US WRONG! THIS IS JUST THE SOUND OF US DRINKING WATER!
AH!
I KNOW, I KNOW.
GULP
ゴ〃ッ
GULP
ゴチュ
GULP
ゴチュ
YOU'RE MAKING LOTS OF NOISES WITH YOUR THROATS.
ARE WE GETTING TO THE MAIN DISH YET?
THEN...?
I SHOWED MY ID TO THE FARMERS AND FINALLY CALLED MY DEPARTMENT.
WHILE WE WAITED FOR THE OTHER OFFICERS TO ARRIVE, WE SAT AROUND THE FIREPLACE.

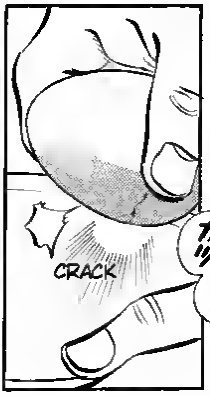
I DRANK 2 OR 3 CUPS OF COLD WELL WATER AT THE FARMER'S HOUSE.
ゴキュ
ゴキュ
GULP
GULP
ゴク ゴク
RUMBLE
グゥ
THAT WOKE MY STOMACH AND MY HUNGER BECAME APPARENT.
I'VE GOT IT!
HE'S TRYING TO TALK ABOUT BREAKFAST!

WHITE RICE, MISO SOUP, DRIED FISH, AND SOME PICKLED VEGGIES.
IF THE WHITE RICE WAS BROWN RICE INSTEAD, IT'D BE THE SAME AS OUR BREAKFAST HERE.
THAT WON'T MAKE US HUNGRY AT ALL.
BUT THAT'S TOO SUDDEN...
IT SEEMS TO BE A FARMER'S BREAKFAST.
OKAY.
SO, WHAT IS IT?
IT COULD BE RICE BALLS.
BUT THAT CAN'T MAKE OUR STOMACH RUMBLE.

SO INSTEAD, THEY PREPARED THIS FOR ME....
IT WAS REALLY EARLY IN THE MORNING, SO THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY MISO SOUP READY YET.

FRESHLY COOKED WHITE RICE...
AND A NEWLY LAID EGG.


OPEN
パカッ


CRACK
カッ
カッ

THE EGG WAS STILL WARM IN MY HAND.

I MADE A HOLE IN THE CENTER OF THE RICE WITH MY CHOPSTICKS.
I LIKE A BIT SALTIER.
I ADDED A FEW DROPS OF SOY SAUCE.
BEAT
BEAT
BEAT
THEN I MIXED IT WITH THE EGG.

I POURED THE EGG INTO THE HOLE.
AND MIXED IT,
ガラ
STIR
ENTIRELY,
ガラ
STIR
WITH THE WHITE RICE.
ガラ
STIR
フー
BLOW
フー

モム
モム
MUNCH
ザッ
ザク
MUNCH
MUNCH
ザッザッザッ

スッ
スッ
カチャ
カチャ
SLURP
ズゾゾゾ
SLURP
ズゾゾゾ
はぁ～っ！
PHEEEW!
IT TASTED LIKE THE BEST THING IN THE WORLD!
I SCARFED DOWN THREE BOWLS WORTH!
GULP.

GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
SIX,
SEVEN,
THREE,
FOUR,
WOW!
JOUJI! YOU GOT A PERFECT SCORE!
GULP
EIGHT.

第十話◉終

PASSION FOR BASASHI

第十一話◉馬刺しに懸ける想い

JOUJI, YOU GOT A PERFECT SCORE!
I WON MY OSECHI!
UGH.
HELL YEAH!
UHH...
SIGH.
SIGH.
DAMN.
UGH...

SOUNDS GREAT!
?
SLURP
I WANNA EAT A BOWLFUL OF RAW EGG OVER RICE!
CAN'T HELP IT...
HMM...
I'M GONNA' EAT IT AS SOON AS I GET OUT OF THIS PRISON!
HA HA.
I'M GIVING UP!
I'M GOING FOR THE LAST STORY!
WE'RE FAIRLY DEFEATED.
SCRATCH

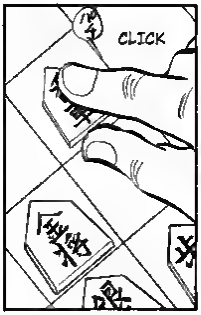
ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
DON'T BE SILLY. HIS PERFECT SCORE ENDS THIS GAME.
THERE'S STILL A LITTLE TIME, LET'S LISTEN TO YOUR STORY.
IF I GET ANOTHER PERFECT SCORE, WE CAN GO INTO THE FINAL ROUND!
THAT'S VERY UNLIKELY.
NO WAY.
ARE YOU SURE!?
THANK YOU GOSABUROU!
YOU'RE NEWBIE HERE. IT WON'T BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU.

RAW FOOD... RAW EGGS OR RAW FISH LIKE IN JOUJI'S STORY.
THERE ARE CERTAIN FOODS THAT ARE EASY FOR US TO EAT OUTSIDE OF THIS PRISON BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO EAT IN HERE...
SAKAI TALKED ABOUT SASHIMI THAT WAS DISHED UP ON A NAKED WOMAN LAST YEAR, BUT HE WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH TO DESCRIBE THE TASTE OF SASHIMI.
SO...
COUGH
I'D QUIT A HOST CLUB THAT I'D BEEN WORKING FOR IN FAVOR OF BEING INDEPENDENT.
IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO.
I SET UP MY OWN BUSINESS AND IT BECAME RATHER SUCCESSFUL.

.....

KEEP TALKING.
MY EARS ARE LISTENING TO YOU.

LET ME HEAR IT.
CLICK
HMM... 3 AND 5 HUH?

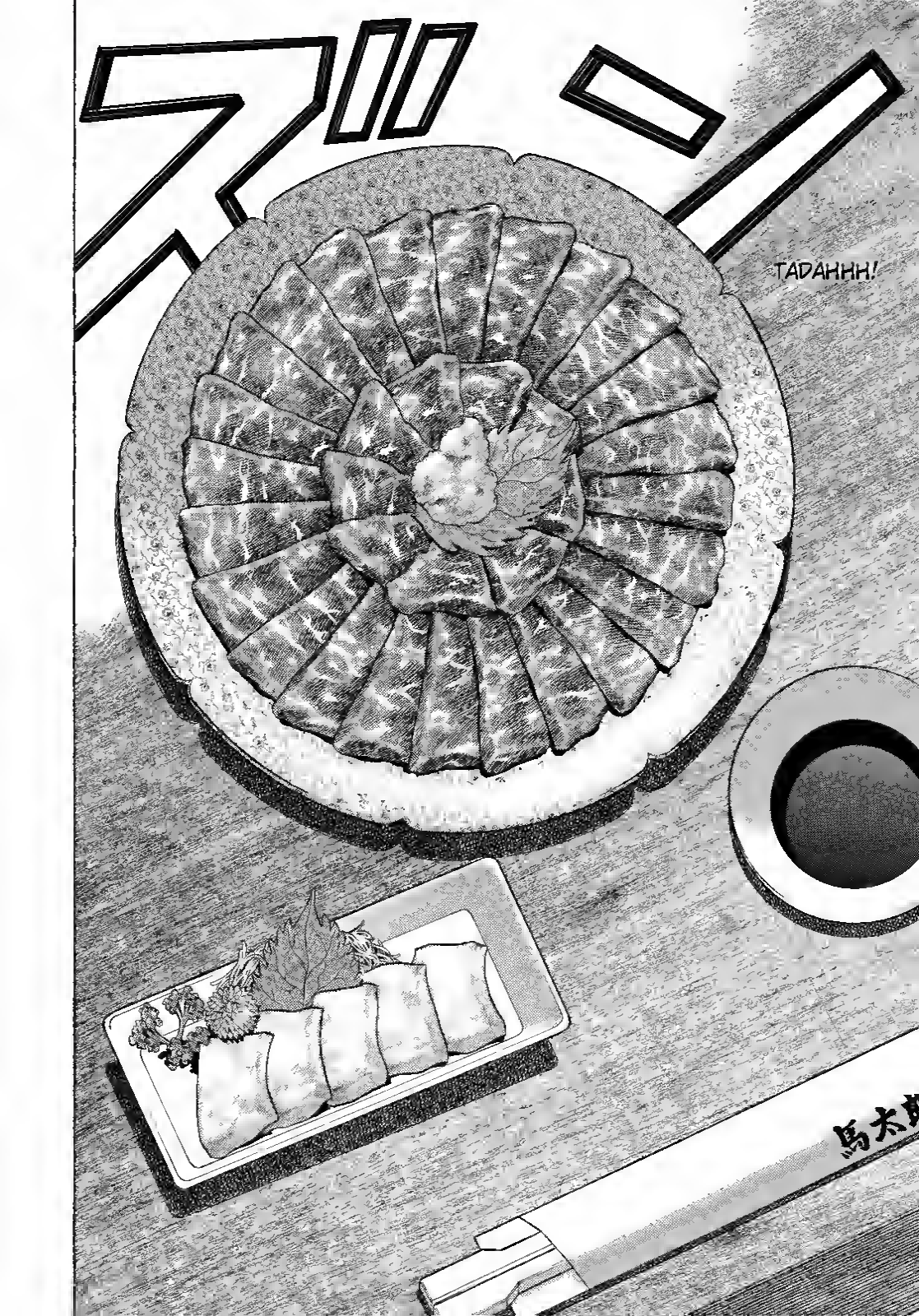

CLICK

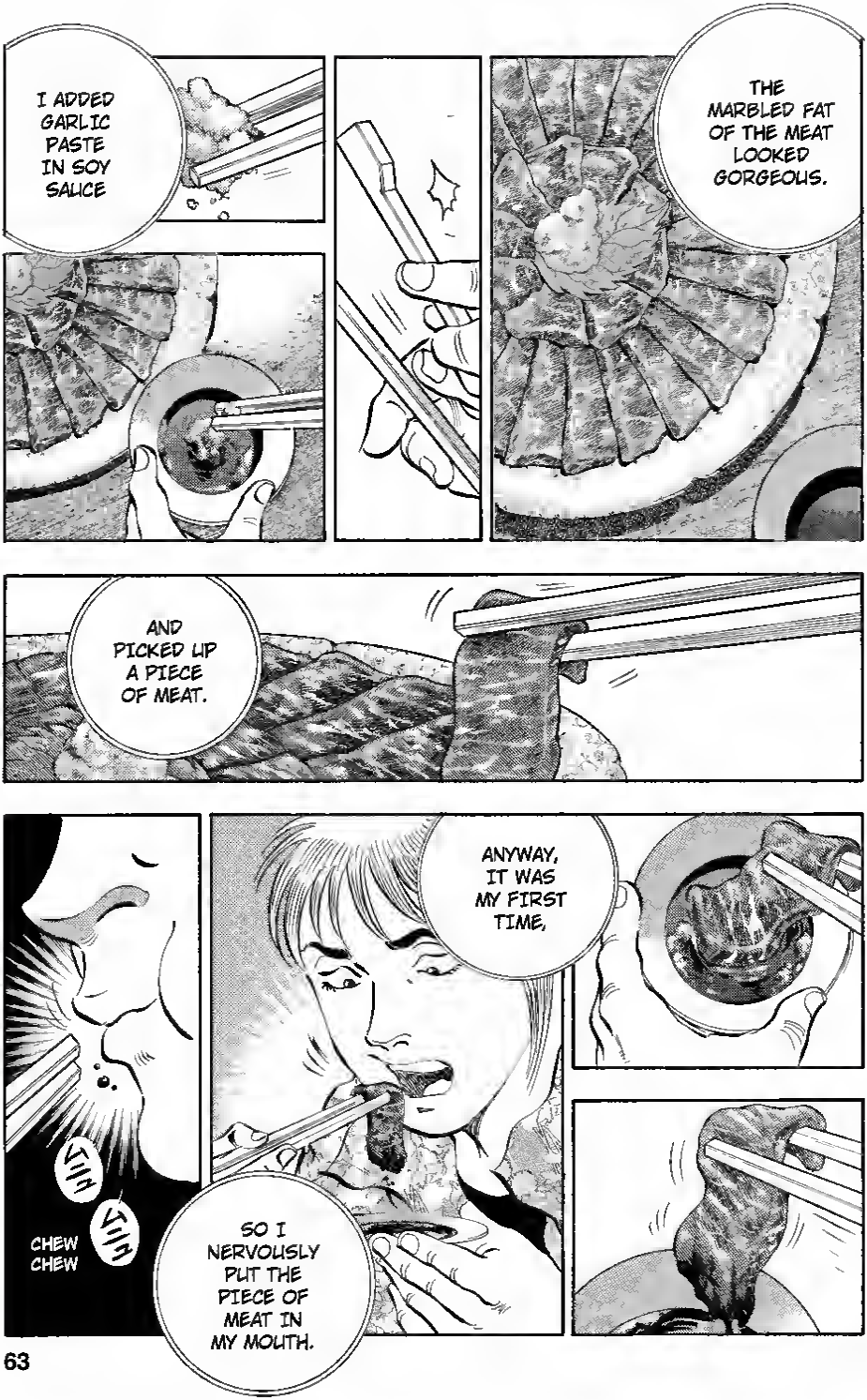
WAIT A SEC...!
WHY WON'T YOU LISTEN TO MY STORY!

DAMN IT! I'M GONNA' GET THEM INTERESTED IN MY STORY NO MATTER WHAT!
ALRIGHT, I'M GONNA GO WITH THAT!
TALKING ABOUT ONLY RAW FOOD CAN BE TOO WEAK...
IT MUST HAVE A STRONG IMPRESSION ON TASTE.
WHEN I WAS IN MY SECOND YEAR AT UNIVERSITY, I TOOK A TRIP TO KUMAMOTO.
I WAS ALREADY WORKING AT THE HOST CLUB, PLAYING TWO ROLES AT THE SAME TIME, SO I NEEDED SOME VACATION TIME TO REPLENISH MY ENERGY.

I THOUGHT HORSE MEAT MIGHT GIVE ME SOME HORSE-POWER.
WHY KUMAMOTO? FOR YOUR STRENGTH?
WHEN IT COMES TO HORSE MEAT, KUMAMOTO IS THE BEST PLACE TO EAT.
BUNS CALLED OYAKI.
OTHER FAMOUS FOODS IN SHINSHU ARE...
IT COULD BE SHINSHU TOO.
THAT DOESN'T SOUND VERY INTERE-STING.
AND NOZAWANA ...
RUSH
RIGHT, IF YOU STAY IN A GUESTHOUSE IN SHINSHU, THEY SERVE YOU HORSE MEAT SASHIMI FOR DINNER.

CONTINUE YOUR STORY.
THEY HAVE HIGH SELF-ESTEEM.
PEOPLE IN SHINSHU WOULDN'T APPRECIATE IT AT ALL IF YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.
THAT'S ENOUGH OF SHINSHU.
YEAH,
WHEN I WENT TO SHINSHU LAST TIME ...
I THOUGHT IT HAD TO BE RAW MEAT TO GAIN MY STRENGTH, SO I ODERED HORSE MEAT SASHIMI.
HERE YOU GO.
IT WAS MY FIRST TIME EATING HORSE MEAT SASHIMI, SO I WAS A BIT NERVOUS UNTIL THEY BROUGHT ME THE DISH.
馬太郎


TADAHHH!


I ADDED GARLIC PASTE IN SOY SAUCE
THE MARBLED FAT OF THE MEAT LOOKED GORGEOUS.
AND PICKED UP A PIECE OF MEAT.
ANYWAY, IT WAS MY FIRST TIME,
SO I NERVOUSLY PUT THE PIECE OF MEAT IN MY MOUTH.
CHEW CHEW
CHEW CHEW

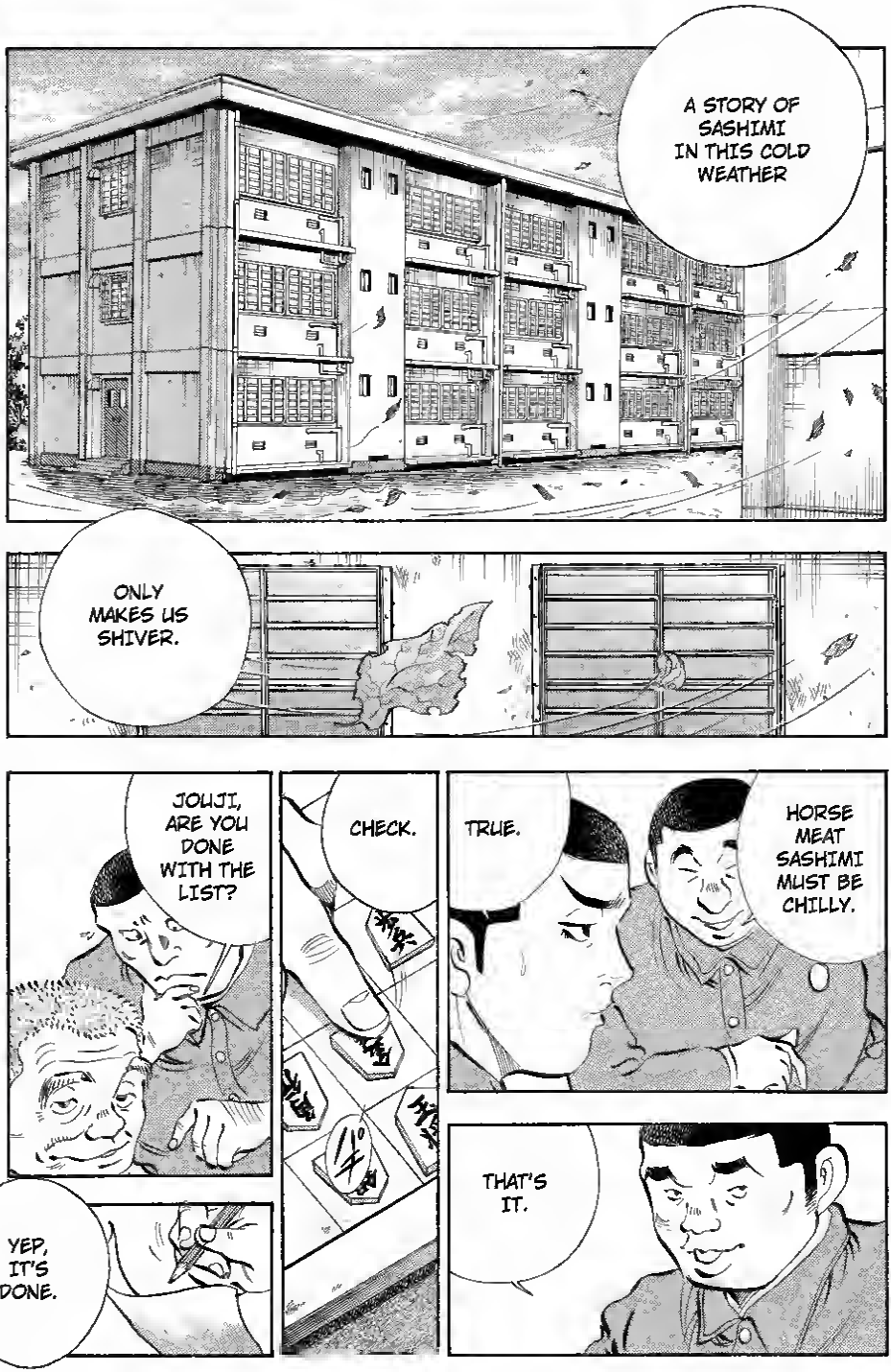
IT WAS CHILL AND SOFT LIKE FATTY TUNA. AND IT WAS PERFECTLY MATCHED WITH THE GARLIC SOY SAUCE.
HOW CAN I EXPLAIN THIS FEELING?
TATEGAMI IS THIS CUT OF MEAT.
ANOTHER SASHIMI WAS "TATEGAMI."
IT LOOKED AS PURE WHITE AS A PIECE OF FAT. I THOUGHT IT COULD BE A BIT TOO HEAVY, BUT I ATE IT ANYWAY.
WHOA!
CHEW

IT WAS A CHILL FEELING AGAIN, AND IT MELTED IN MY MOUTH.
チラ
GLANCE

GULP
I DRANK KUMA SHOCHU WITH HOT WATER, WHILE I WAS EATING THE SASHIMI.
HOW ABOUT THIS THEN!?
MAKE NOISES!
TALKING ABOUT LIQUOR IS AGAINST RULES!
ONLY GUARDS CAN TALK ABOUT IT.
UH...
SHOCHU ...
UH...
UH...
WITH HOT WATER...
AGH

HE'S RIGHT. THEY'RE BETTER AT RUNNING.
HORSES AREN'T FOOD.
MANY YEARS AGO...
THEY'RE SOMETHING THAT YOU BET FOR.
SINCE THEN MY LIFE'S BEEN MISERABLE.
I WON A BIG HORSE RACE AND SPENT ALL MY LUCK.
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE.
HUH?
FORGET IT, AIDA.
YOU'LL DO A GOOD JOB NEXT YEAR.

NO, NO.
YEAH.
YOU TALKED ABOUT SASHIMI BECAUSE WE CAN'T EAT IT HERE, DIDN'T YOU?
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
NO IDEA.
I ALSO TRIED FATTY TUNA SASHIMI LAST YEAR,
BUT I DIDN'T GET ANY POINTS.
IT'S THE WEATHER.
BUT IT'S STILL COLD.
UNLIKE THE PAST, A HEATING SYSTEM HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN THE BUILDING,


A STORY OF SASHIMI IN THIS COLD WEATHER
ONLY MAKES US SHIVER.
JOUJI, ARE YOU DONE WITH THE LIST?
CHECK.
TRUE.
HORSE MEAT SASHIMI MUST BE CHILLY.
YEP, IT'S DONE.
THAT'S IT.

FOR STARTERS, I'LL TAKE A FRIED SHRIMP FROM NOZAWA.
HERE, LISTEN UP.
SHIT!
PLEASE NOT THAT.

I FIGURED OUT EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE FOOD LAST YEAR.
I'LL TAKE ONE FROM EACH OF YOU.

WAIT A SEC!
NEXT, FROM MINAMI...

?
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT OSECHI.

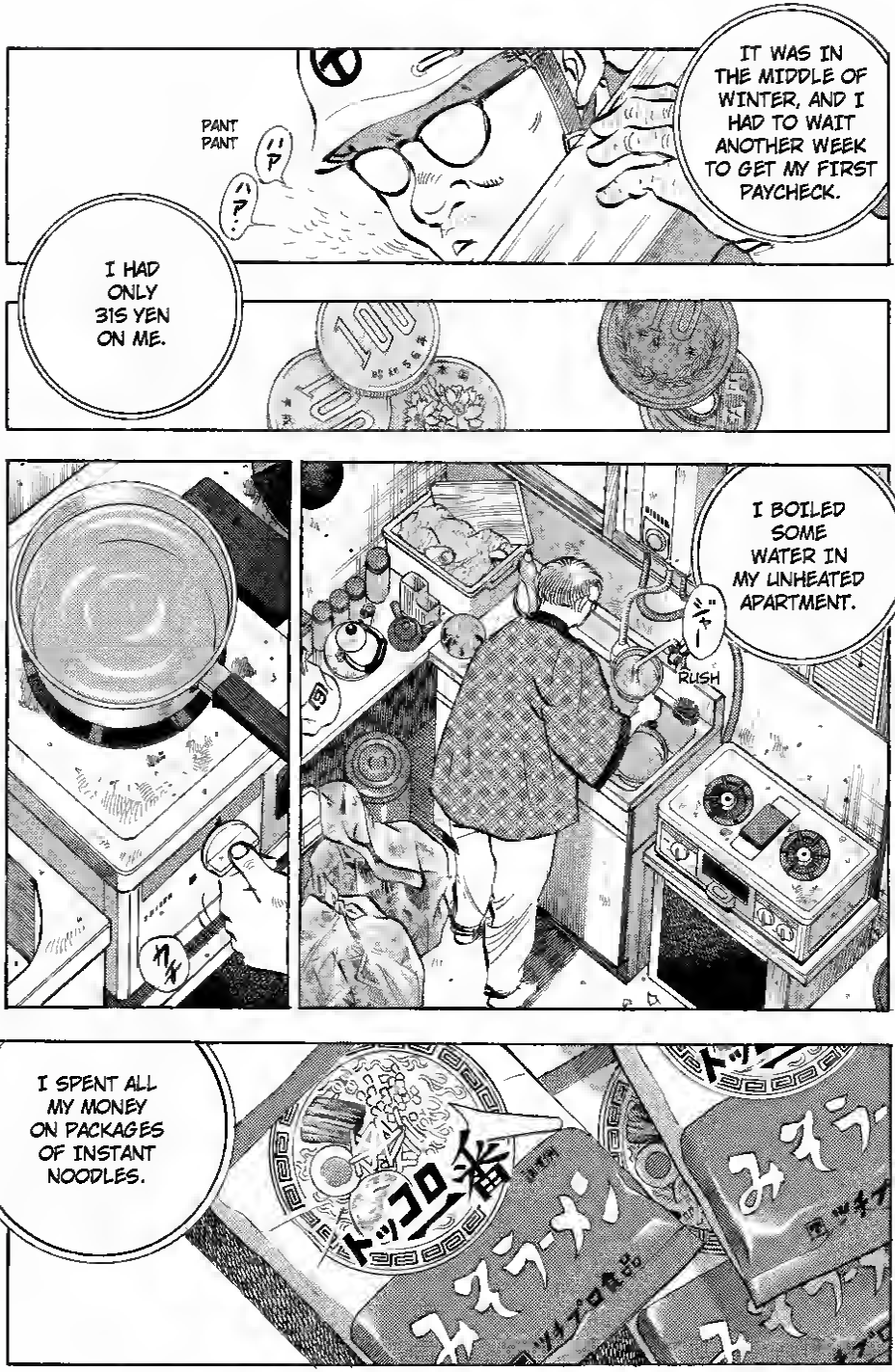
YOU'RE A NEWBIE TO OSECHI HERE.
HMM, WHAT SHOULD I GET FROM YOU?

THE WINNER'S STORY LAST YEAR...
EVERYBODY SPEAKS HIGHLY OF

...IT WAS RAMEN.

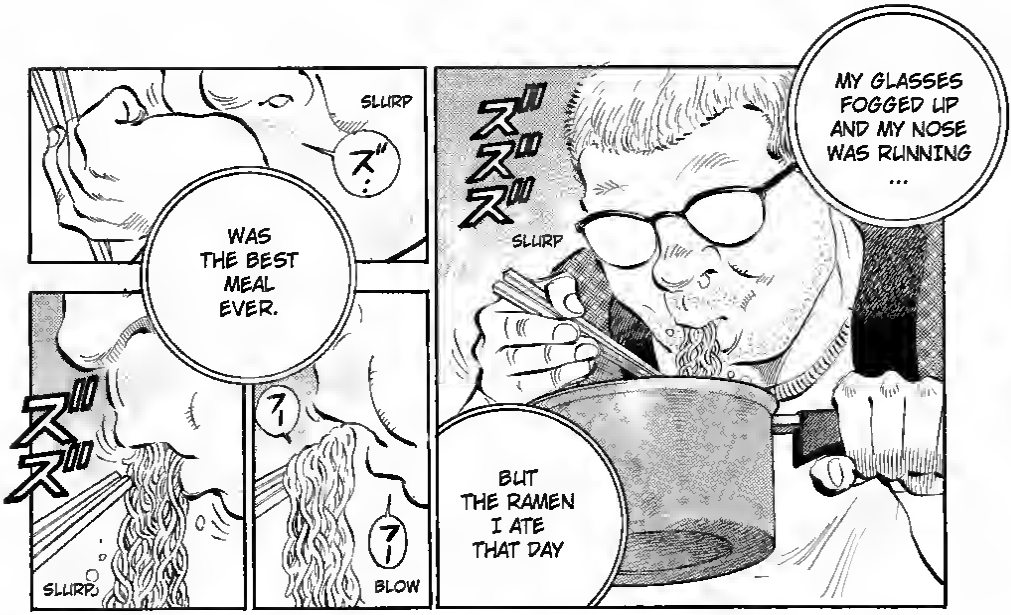
WHAT FOOD DID HE TALK ABOUT?

IT WAS THE INSTANT NOODLE KIND.
NOPE.
RAMEN!
WAS THE PLACE SOMEWHERE FAMOUS?
相田
A BAG OF INSTANT NOOLDES.
YEP.
I WAS FIRED BY A COMPANY THAT I HAD BEEN WORKING FOR FOR A VERY LONG TIME, AND MY FAMILY HAD TO BE SEPARATED...
I WAS TOO OLD TO FIND A NEW JOB AGAIN, BUT I FINALLY FOUND ONE AS A CONSTRUCTION WORKER.
CLANK CLANK
CLANK CLANK
工事中
ご迷惑おかけ致します
○○建設


IT WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER, AND I HAD TO WAIT ANOTHER WEEK TO GET MY FIRST PAYCHECK.
PANT PANT
ハア
ハア?
I HAD ONLY 315 YEN ON ME.
I BOILED SOME WATER IN MY UNHEATED APARTMENT.
ジー
RUSH
I SPENT ALL MY MONEY ON PACKAGES OF INSTANT NOODLES.
トッコロ番
みそ

RIP
DRAW
TO BE HONEST... I JUST DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD.
IT'S NOT PROPER TO ADD ANY OTHER INGREDIENTS.
BOIL
BOIL
IT WAS READY WITHIN A FEW MINUTES.
I PUT IN THE SEASONING AND SPICES THAT CAME WITH THE PACKAGE.

BLOW
I ATE DIRECTLY FROM THE POT.
スズ
SLURP

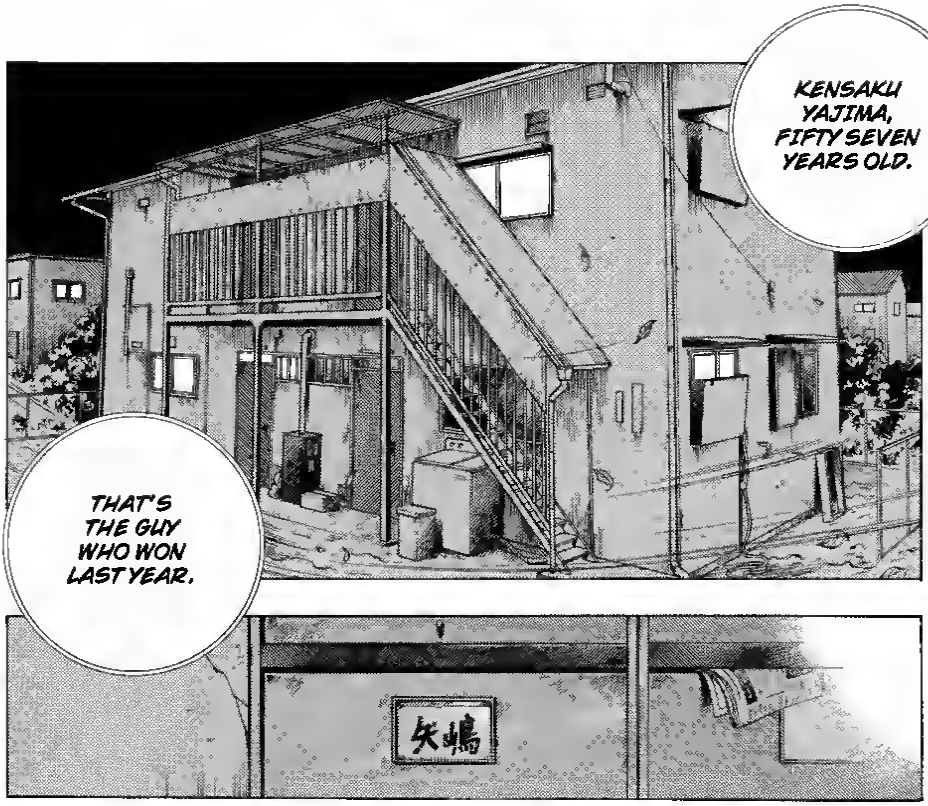

SLURP
ズ…
WAS THE BEST MEAL EVER.
ズズズ
SLURP
フー
フー
BLOW
ズズズ
SLURP
ズズズ
SLURP
BUT THE RAMEN I ATE THAT DAY
MY GLASSES FOGGED UP AND MY NOSE WAS RUNNING …

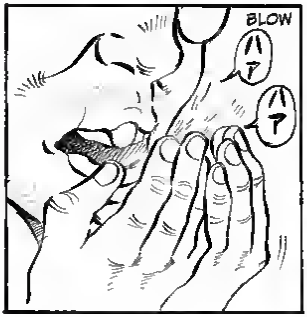
WE COULD NEARLY FEEL THE COLDNESS IN THE AIR …
BEING FOUGHT OFF BY THE WARMTH OF THE RAMEN.
ズ…
IT WARMED US UP COMPLETELY.

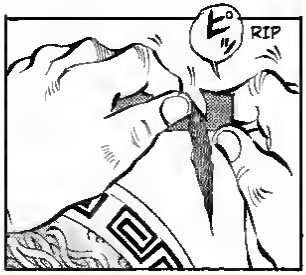
第十一話◉終

第十二話 ○最高のラーメン

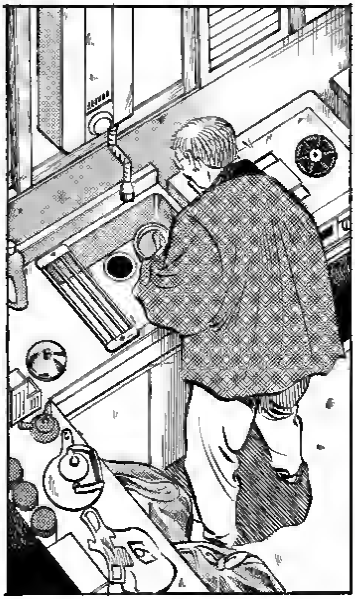
THE BEST RAMEN


KENSAKU YAJIMA, FIFTY SEVEN YEARS OLD.
THAT'S THE GUY WHO WON LAST YEAR.
矢嶋


BLOW
ハア
ハア


ヒ°
RIP

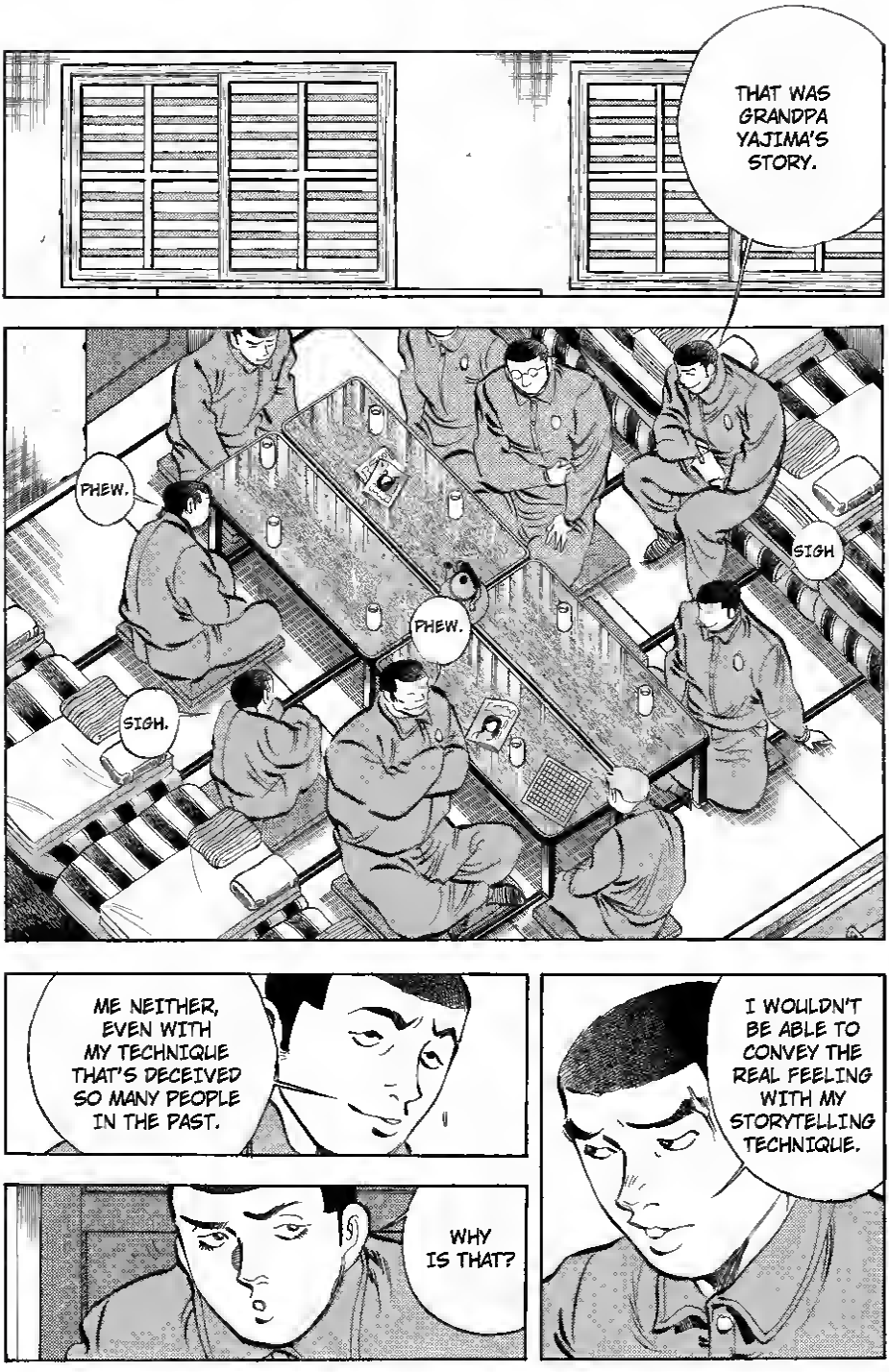
ドッコロ番



HE GOT LAID OFF FROM A COMPANY THAT HE HAD WORKED FOR FOR THE LONGEST TIME, AND HIS FAMILY WAS SEPARATED.
DRAW
HE FINALLY FOUND A JOB AS A CONSTRUCTION WORKER.
フー フー
BLOW
ズー
ズー
ズー
SLURP
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WINTER, THERE WAS STILL A WEEK TO SURVIVE UNTIL HE GOT HIS PAYCHECK, AND HE HAD ONLY HAD 315 YEN TO HIS NAME.

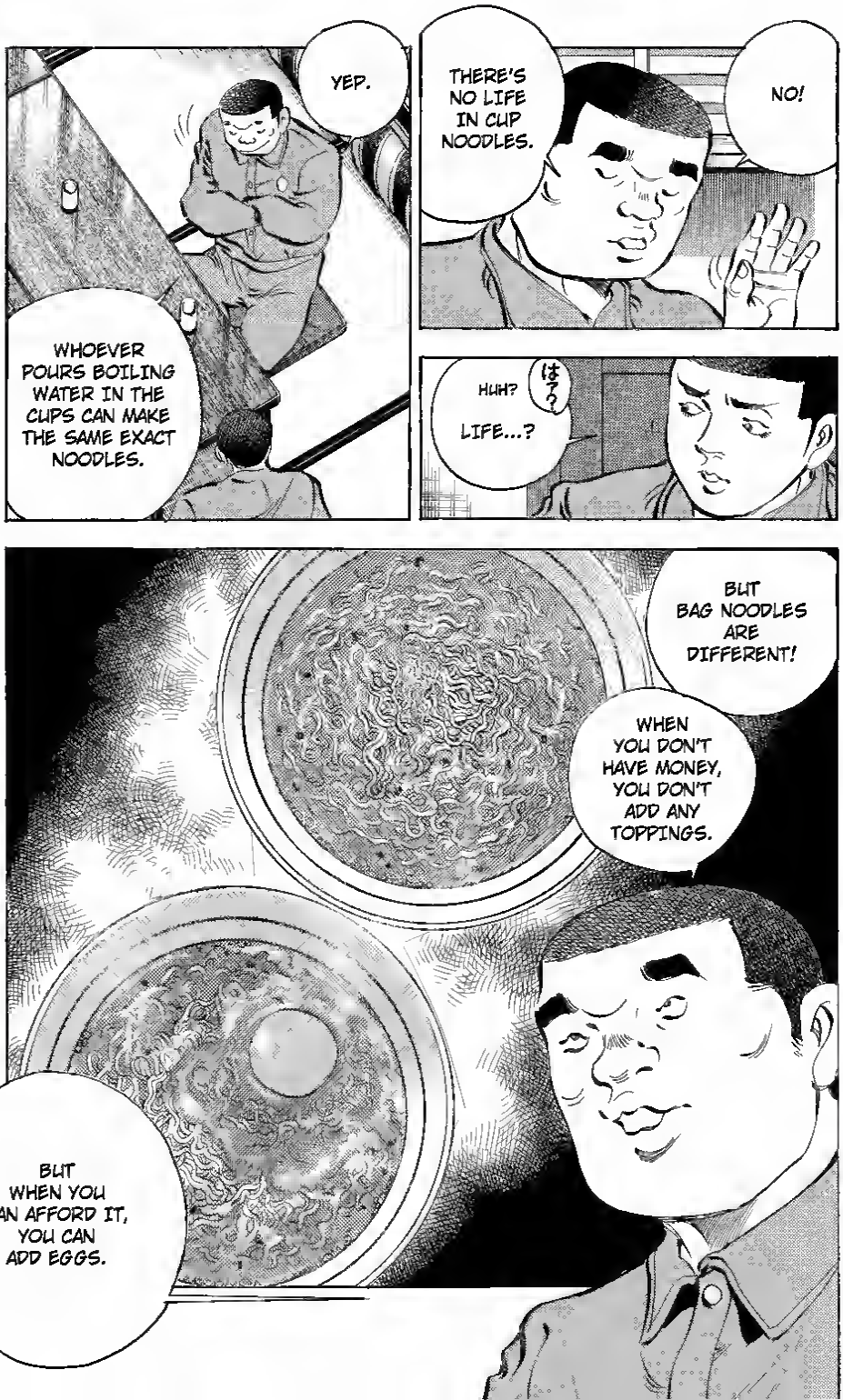
HIS APARTMENT WAS FREEZING COLD WITHOUT ANY HEAT, AND HE ATE HIS INSTANT NOODLES DIRECTLY FROM THE POT.
SLURP
ズズズ
ズズー
ズズ
SLURP
ゴク
GULP
THE WARM BROTH AND NOODLES SLID INTO HIS FROZEN BODY.
フー
BLOW
熱ッ
HOT!

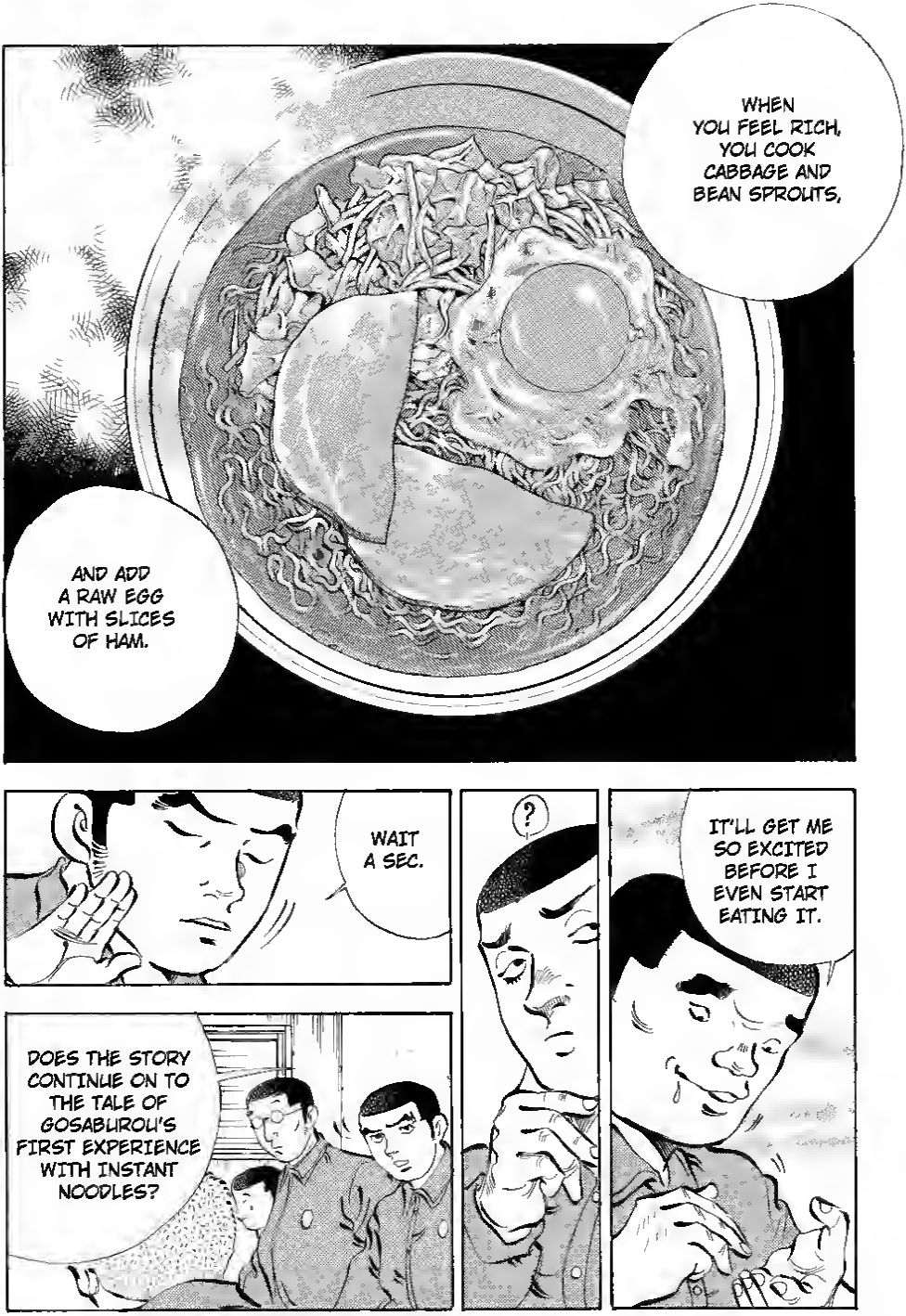
I STARTED TEARING ONCE MY STOMACH WAS WARMED UP.
フゥ
SIGH
ズズズ
SLURP
TEARS MIXED WITH MY RUNNY NOSE, MAKING A MESS OF MY FACE WHILE I WAS EATING THE RAMEN,
ズズッズズッ
SLURP
チェルル
PAST OR FUTURE,
アー
THAT WAS THE BEST RAMEN EVER.


THAT WAS GRANDPA YAJIMA'S STORY.
PHEW.
SIGH.
PHEW.
SIGH.
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CONVEY THE REAL FEELING WITH MY STORYTELLING TECHNIQUE.
ME NEITHER, EVEN WITH MY TECHNIQUE THAT'S DECEIVED SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE PAST.
WHY IS THAT?

HE WAS VERY TALENTED AND WELL RECEIVED BY SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD.
YAJIMA USED TO BE A PROFESSIONAL STORYTELLER WHEN HE WAS YOUNG.
BUT HE COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH CURRENT TRENDS AND CLOSED HIS BUSINESS.
I SEE... HE SEEMS LIKE A GOOD STORY-TELLER FOR SURE.
FOOD WAS ALWAYS HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT TO TALK ABOUT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BUT IF I WAS THERE,
HE WOULDN'T'VE GOTTEN A PERFECT SCORE.
ONCE, HE PERFORMED "TOKI UDON," AND THE UDON RESTAURANTS IN THE NEIGBORHOOD GARNERED A LOT OF BUSNIESS.

I'VE NEVER EATEN INSTANT NOODLES THAT COME IN BAGS.
IT ALSO TAKES TIME TO BOIL WATER IN A POT AND YOU HAVE TO CLEAN IT LATER.
WHEN IT COMES TO INSTANT NOODLES, THEY'VE BEEN IN CUPS EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER.
SIGH
ANOTHER GENERATION ...
SO TRUE, SUPER MARKETS AND DELIS ARE MOSTLY SELLING CUP NOODLES.


YEP.
WHOEVER POURS BOILING WATER IN THE CUPS CAN MAKE THE SAME EXACT NOODLES.
THERE'S NO LIFE IN CUP NOODLES.
NO!
HUH?
はぁ?
LIFE...?
BUT BAG NOODLES ARE DIFFERENT!
WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY, YOU DON'T ADD ANY TOPPINGS.
BUT WHEN YOU CAN AFFORD IT, YOU CAN ADD EGGS.


WHEN YOU FEEL RICH, YOU COOK CABBAGE AND BEAN SPROUTS,
AND ADD A RAW EGG WITH SLICES OF HAM.
WAIT A SEC.
DOES THE STORY CONTINUE ON TO THE TALE OF GOSABUROU'S FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH INSTANT NOODLES?
?
IT'LL GET ME SO EXCITED BEFORE I EVEN START EATING IT.

RIGHT.
YOUR FIRST EXPERI-ENCE ?
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO BEGIN.
IT WAS ALMOST TWENTY YEARS AGO.
THEY SELL IT STILL TODAY.
I KNOW.
YOU POUR HOT WATER AND COVER IT WITH A LID.
AND YOU CAN EAT IT AFTER JUST THREE MINUTES.
WE COULDN'T IMAGINE THAT NOODLES COULD BE MADE BY JUST ADDING HOT WATER,
BUT WE WERE ASTONISHED AT THE TIME.

EVEN SOAP OPERAS WERE BROADCAST LIVE AT THE TIME.
便秘に
ふく
ハジメちゃん
1錠
俺がこんな当り前
イハツミだ
ほんまヤて
I WANTED TO TRY THEM SO BADLY.
RAMEN WILL BE READY AFTER TWO MINUTES YOU POUR HOT WATER!
AT THE END OF JUDO SOAP OPERAS, THERE WERE SCENES WHERE THE CAST WOULD COOK THESE NOODLES AND EAT THEM.
HMM, LIVE COMMERCIALS BY THE CAST.
AND IT WAS NORMAL FOR CASTS TO PERFORM LIVE COMMERCIALS.
WE CAN'T FEEL TIME PASS BY AFTER STAYING BEHIND THESE BARS FOR SUCH A LONG TIME,
AND OUR CONVERSATIONS BECOME REPETITIVE.
YOU TOLD US THE STORY WHEN YAJIMA WON LAST YEAR.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I FORGOT ABOUT THAT.

FOOD DELIVERY!!
カラ
カラ
カラ
A CART MOVING
IT'S HERE!!

ALRIGHT, I'M STEALING FROM YOU!
A FRIED SHRIMP FROM NOZAWA.
A MINI KATSU FROM ARAKI.
A DATEMAKI FROM MINAMI.
A CUP OF CHAWANMUSHI FROM OZU.
FROM AIDA...
A PIECE OF YOKAN FROM KATAOKA.
OF COURSE A FRIED SHRIMP AGAIN!
A PIECE OF KAMABOKO FROM SAKAI.

茶わんむし

LET'S EAT!
茶わんむし

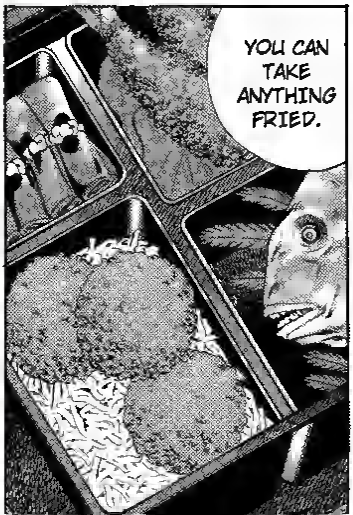
NO THANKS, I HAVE ENOUGH ALREADY.
JOUJI, I'M A PART OF THE GAME, I WASN'T JUST AN AUDIENCE THIS YEAR.
TAKE WHATEVER YOU LIKE.

NOT CHAWAN-MUSHI!
CLOCK

ALRIGHT THEN, CAN I GIVE SECOND PRIZE TO OZU?

I WANT A CUP OF CHAWANMUSHI WHICH JOUJI TOOK AWAY FROM ME.

SURE, IF YOU SAY SO.
MUNCH

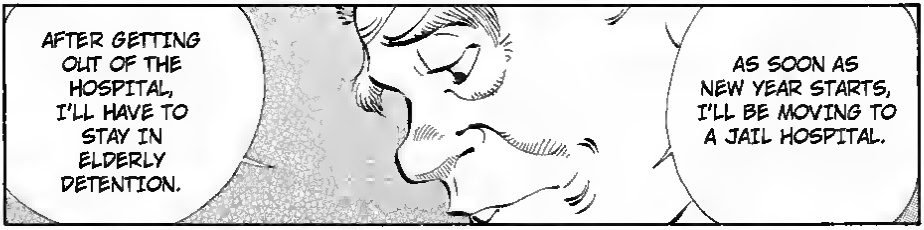

YOU CAN TAKE ANYTHING FRIED.

I CAN'T GIVE YOU EITHER ZOUNI OR CHAWANMUSHI.
TELL ME THAT EARLIER.

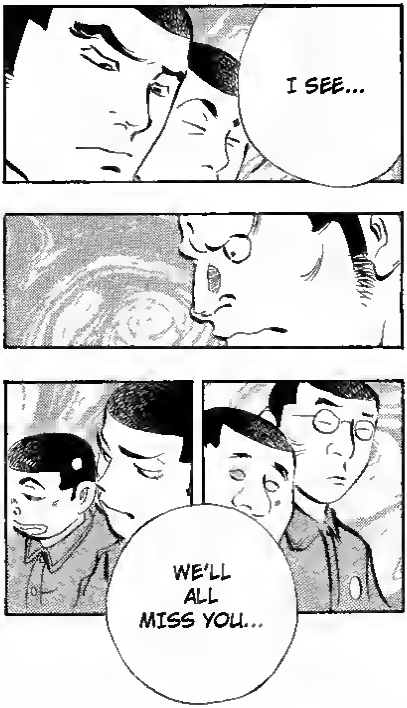
WANNA TAKE A MINI KATSU OR FRIED SHRIMP?
WHAT ABOUT EVERYBODY ELSE?
THIS IS ALSO THE LAST YEAR FOR ME TO EAT OSECHI WITH EVERYONE.
THESE ARE MY THANK YOU GIFTS FOR STAYING TOGETHER WITH ME.
AT MY AGE, FRIED THINGS ARE TOO HEAVY FOR ME.
HUH?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

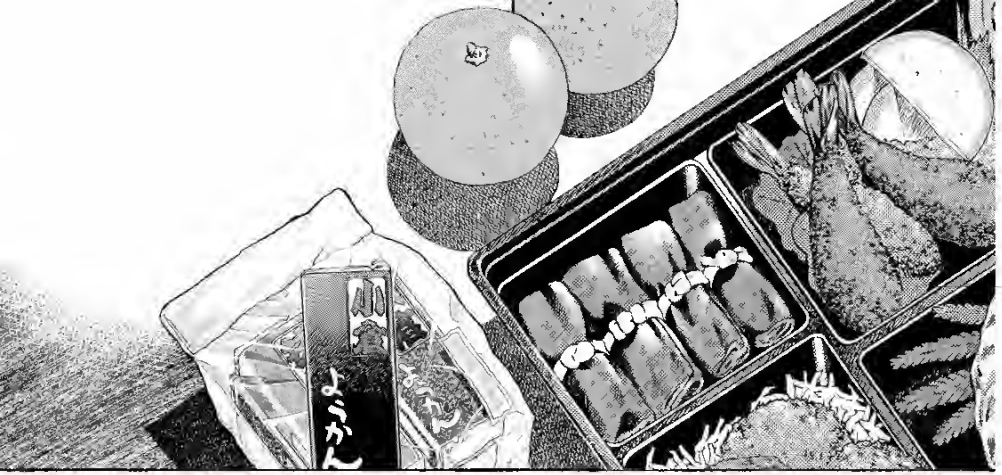
WHAT!?
ウウ…
UGHH
I NOTICED TOO, GOSABURO,
I'VE BEEN HEARING YOU GROWL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT MORE OFTEN.
WHY'S THAT?
IT'S THE LAST YEAR...
I'VE BEEN SICK FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS.
I THOUGHT I WAS STILL FINE, BUT MY BODY CAN'T LIE.
IT CAN'T HOLD OUT ANY LONGER.

HE SAID THAT I NEED TO BE HOSPITALIZED.
I REQUESTED SOME MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND WAS ALLOWED TO SEE A DOCTOR.


AFTER GETTING OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, I'LL HAVE TO STAY IN ELDERLY DETENTION.
AS SOON AS NEW YEAR STARTS, I'LL BE MOVING TO A JAIL HOSPITAL.

HEY, THE ZOUNI IS GETTING COLD.
IT'S A FEAST THAT WE CAN ONLY ENJOY ONCE A YEAR, LET'S EAT AND BE HAPPY.


I SEE...
WE'LL ALL MISS YOU...



OUR OTHER PLEASURE IS...

AN INSTANT CUP NOODLE WITH TOSHI-KOSHI SOBA.

YUM! IT SMELLS EXCELLENT!

CHEW

MUNCH

CHEW

SLURP

THESE FOODS ARE NOTHING SPECIAL OUTSIDE OF THIS PRISON.

MUNCH

CHEW

BUT BEHIND THESE BARS, THESE ARE FEASTS THAT WE CAN ONLY ENJOY ONCE A YEAR.

MOCHI

EVERYONE SCARFED DOWN THEIR FOOD.

CHEW

MUNCH

THE NIGHT OF NEW YEAR'S EVE WAS SLOWLY ENDING.

MUNCH

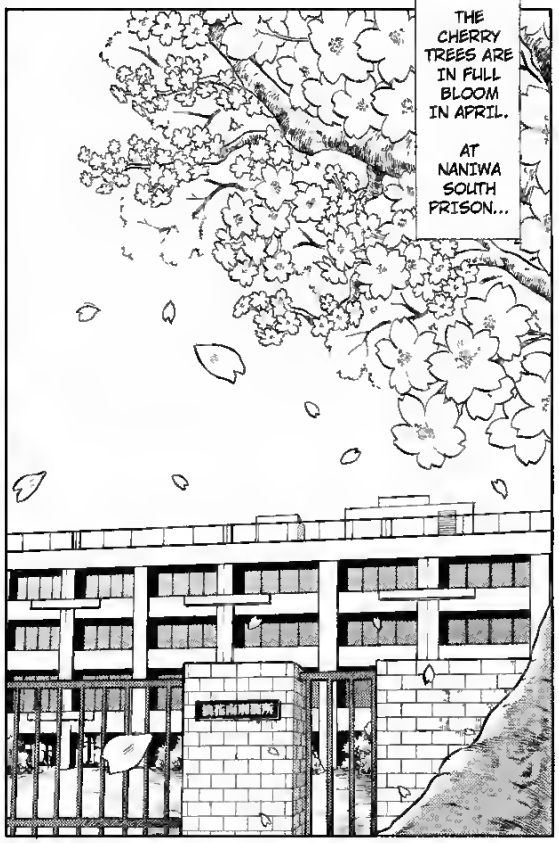
NANIWA MINAMI PRISON, ROOM 204...
GOSABURO HACHINOHE MOVED TO A JAIL HOSPITAL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW YEAR.
IN FEBRUARY, MASAHIKO NODA WAS RELEASED FROM THE PRISON, LEAVING SIX MONTHS OF HIS TERM INCOMPLETE.

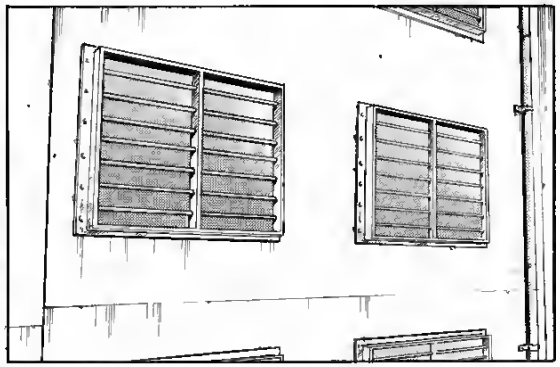
第十二話◉終

A LETTER FROM A TRICKSTER

第十三話◉詐欺師からの手紙

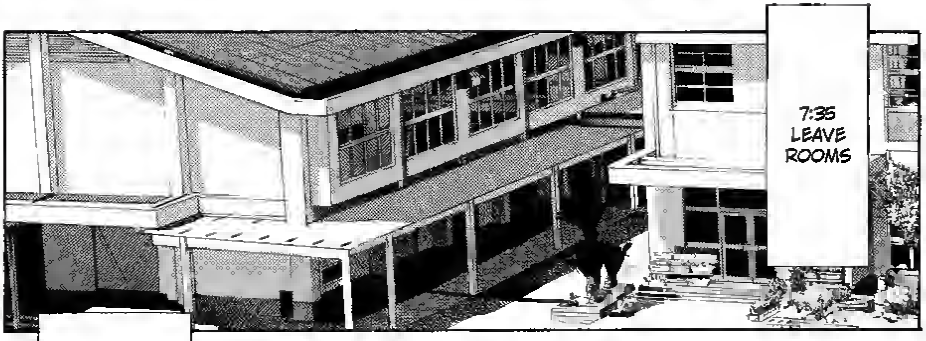
MUNCH
MUNCH
CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
SLURP
MUNCH
MUNCH
CHEW
CHEW
SLURP
NORTH THIRD BUILDING, ROOM 204. IN THE MORNING, THIS IS THE USUAL BREAKFAST SCENERY. TODAY'S MENUS ARE A BOWL OF MIXED BROWN RICE 70% AND WHITE RICE 30%, A CUP OF MISO SOUP WITH TOFU AND SEAWEED, GRATED RADISHES AND SOME PICKLED CUCUMBERS.

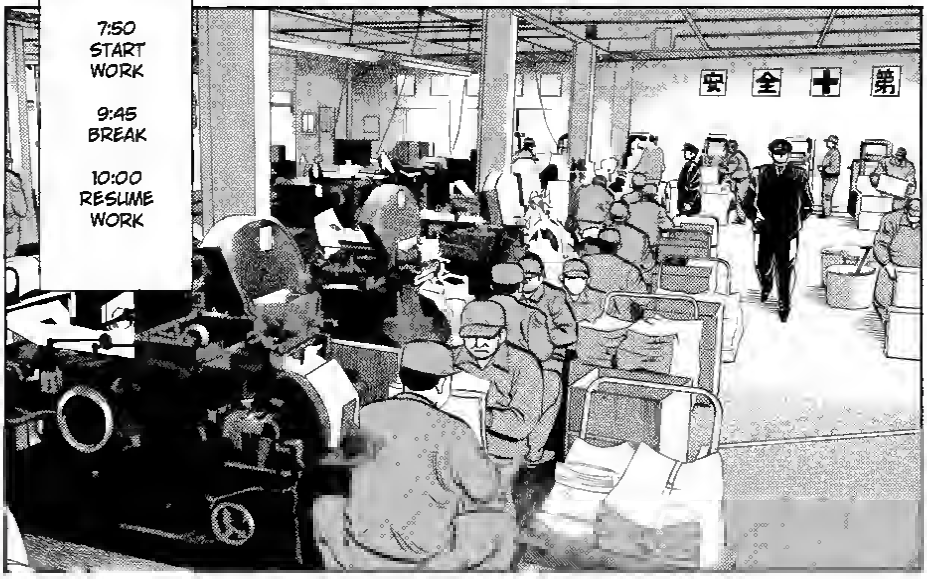

THE CHERRY TREES ARE IN FULL BLOOM IN APRIL.
AT NANIWA SOUTH PRISON...

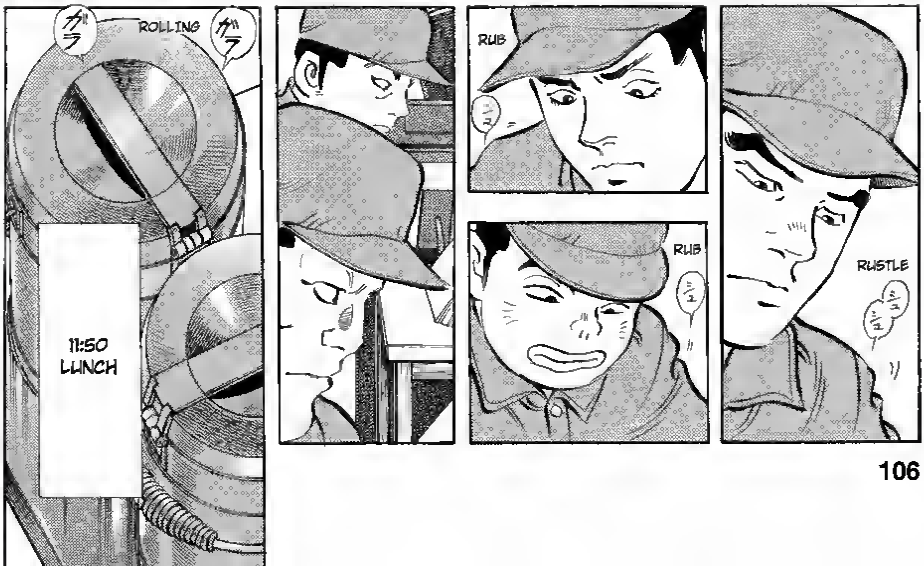


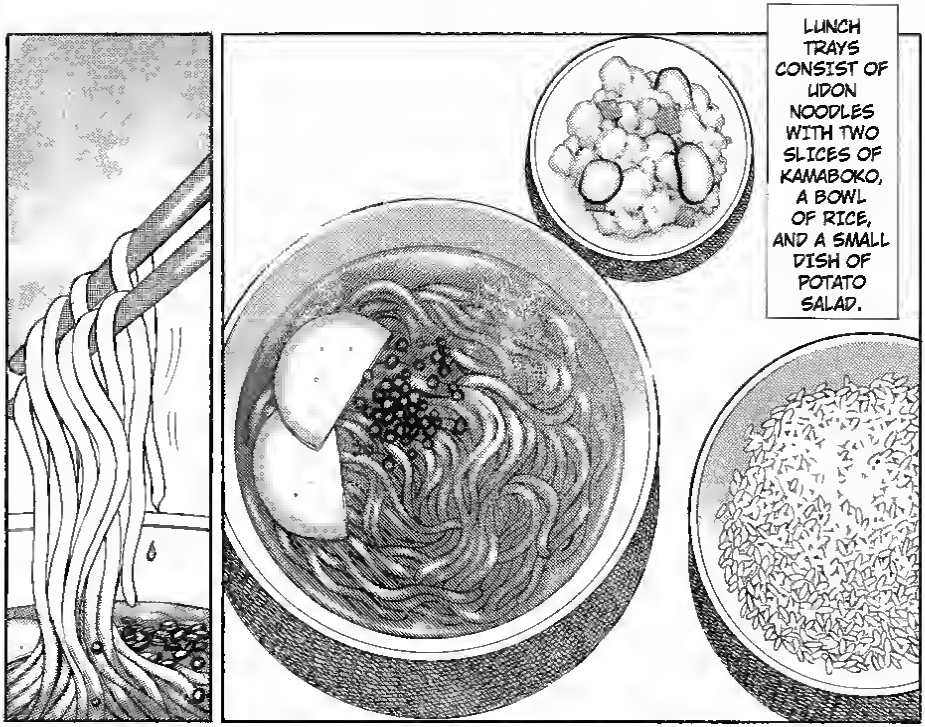
MUNCH
CHEW
CHEW
SLURP
CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
MUNCH
MUNCH

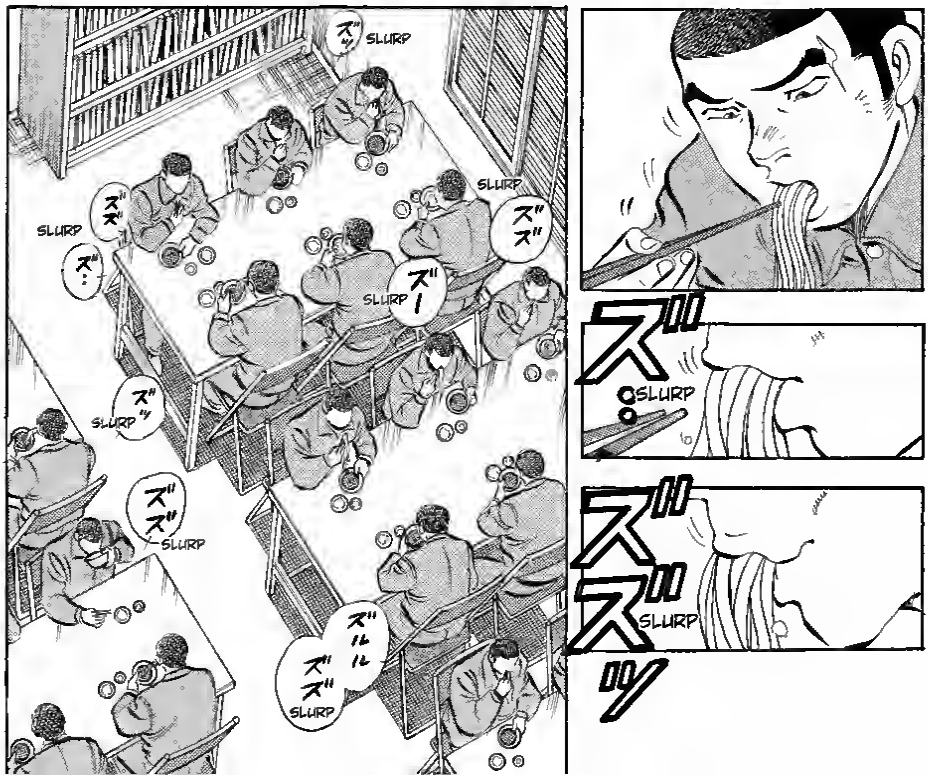
MUNCH
MUNCH
CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
IN THE BEGINNING OF NEW YEAR, GOSABURO HACHINOHE MOVED TO A PRISON HOSPITAL, AND MASAHIKO NOZAWA WAS PAROLED IN MARCH, LEAVING HIS ONE YEAR TERM INCOMPLETE.
STAND IN ORDER!
MARCH FORWARD!


7:35
LEAVE
ROOMS


7:50
START
WORK
9:45
BREAK
10:00
RESUME
WORK
安全第一


ガラ
ROLLING
ガラ
11:50
LUNCH
RUB
RUB
RUSTLE


LUNCH TRAYS CONSIST OF UDON NOODLES WITH TWO SLICES OF KAMABOKO, A BOWL OF RICE, AND A SMALL DISH OF POTATO SALAD.


ズッ SLURP
SLURP
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SLURP
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ズルル
ズズ SLURP
ズー
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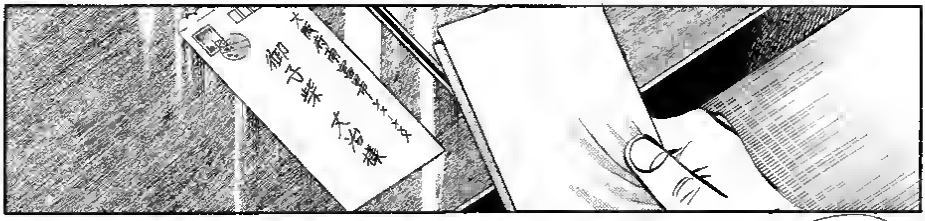
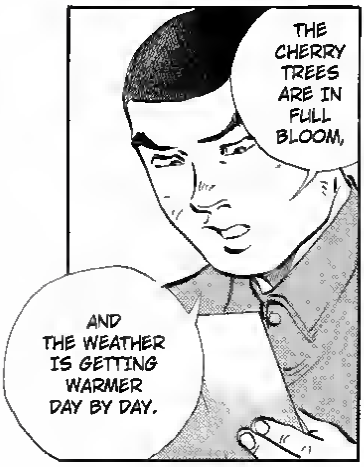
ズズー
SLURP
ズズー

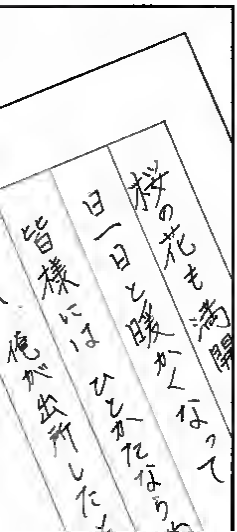
YES.
THESE LETTERS ARE FOR PRISONERS NUMBERED 135 AND 374.
12:30 RESUME WORK
14:15 BREAK (15 MIN.)
16:30 FINISH WORK
16:40 BACK IN ROOMS
JOUJI THIS IS FOR YOU.
野沢正彦
AH, THIS IS FROM NOZAWA!
FROM NOZAWA?
WHAT'S IT SAY?




THE CHERRY TREES ARE IN FULL BLOOM,
AND THE WEATHER IS GETTING WARMER DAY BY DAY.

I'M GONNA READ IT.

CHUCKLE


桜の花も満開
日一日と暖かくなって
旨様には ひとかたならぬ
俺が出所した

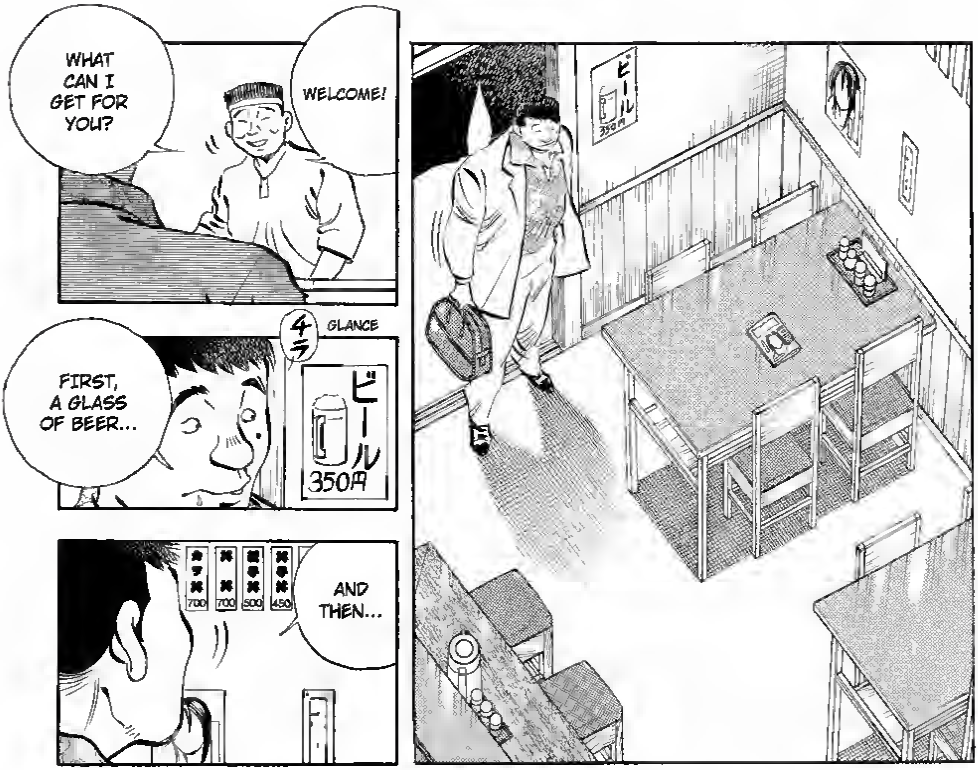
LET ME CONTINUE.

HE HAD FIFTEEN YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT INCLUDING REHAB.

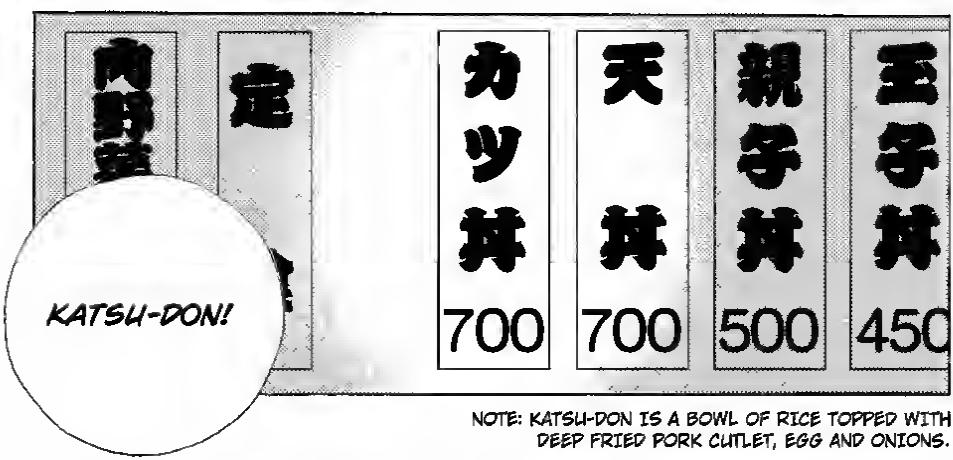
HE FINALLY TURNED AROUND.

THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE HIM.

I RAN TO...
AS SOON AS I WAS RELEASED,
THE DINER RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE PRISON!
タタタ RUN
なにわ食堂
SLIDE ガララ
なにわ食堂
AKA "CELEBRATION DINER."
THE PRISONERS WHO HAVE NO ONE WAITING FOR THEM OUTSIDE WILL IMMEDIATELY GO TO THAT DINER.
"CELEB-RATION DINER?"



麺類		丼物		定食
素うどん	350	玉子丼	450	カツ丼 700
きつねうどん	450	親子丼	500	天丼 700
月見うどん	450	天丼	700	
きんぴらうどん	550	カツ丼	700	
天ぷらうどん	600			
鍋焼うどん	900			



NOTE: KATSU-DON IS A BOWL OF RICE TOPPED WITH DEEP FRIED PORK CUTLET, EGG AND ONIONS.

I THOUGHT THAT WHEN I GOT OUT, I WOULD HAVE CHOSEN FOODS THAT HAVE COME UP DURING OUR OSECHI BATTLES.
AND...?
I TOTALLY UNDER-STAND.
I WOULD DO THE SAME.
THAT'S WHAT I REALLY THOUGHT, BUT IN REALITY...
THE KATSU-DON THAT'S BEEN RIGHT IN FRONT OF US, SEEMS TO BE THE BEST CHOICE.
FIRST OF ALL, A GLASS OF BEER AFTER TWO YEARS...
IT WAS INCREDIBLY TASTY!

YUMMY!
BAM!
GULP
7"
AFTER DRINKING BEER FOR A WHILE,
SLURP
IT MADE NOISES IN MY THROAT.
I DRANK IT DOWN COMPLETELY.
GULP
HERE YOU GO, SIR!

TA-DAH!
HERE IT COMES!

SIGH
IT SMELLED EXCELLENT!
TEAR
I PICKED UP A SLICE OF PORK KATSU,
HOT
MUNCH
MUNCH
HOT
AND TOOK A VERY LARGE BITE.
CHEW
BLOW
WITH SOME HALF COOKED EGG ON IT,
BITE

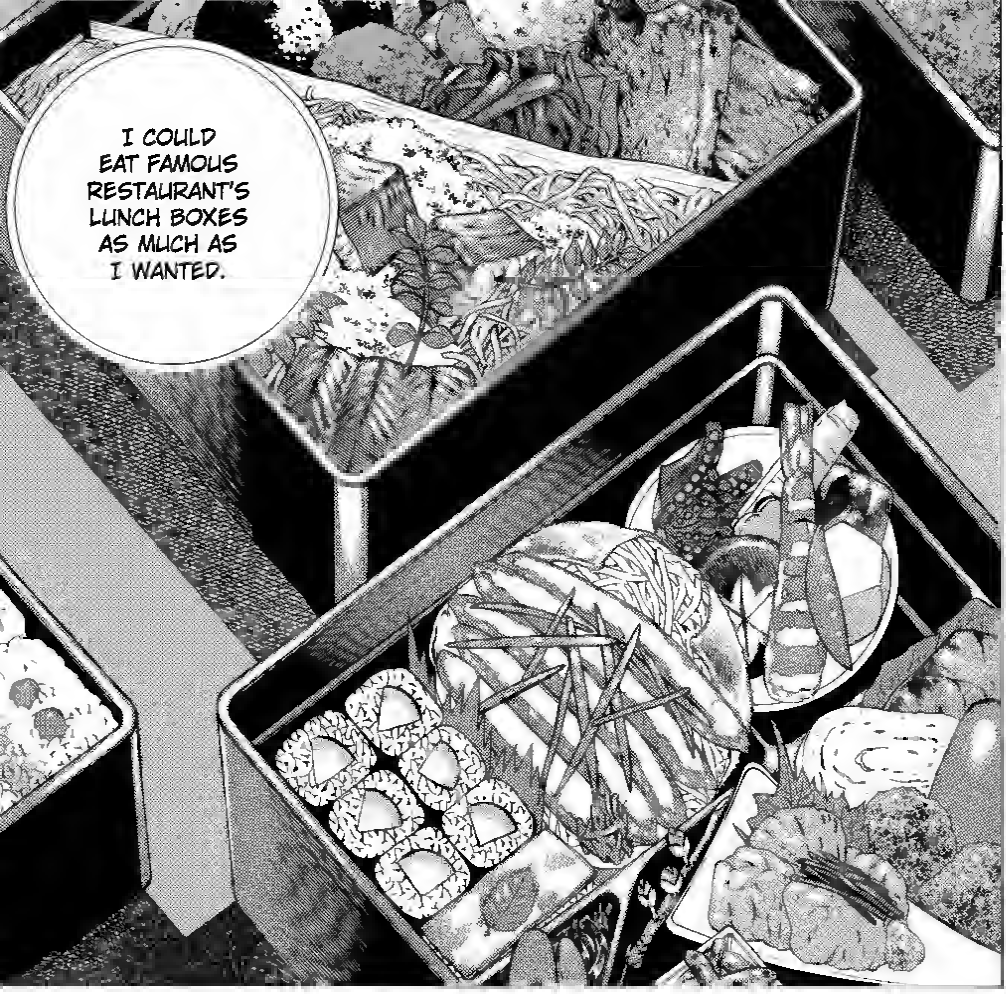
MUNCH
I WAS SCARFING IT DOWN!
MUNCH
MUNCH
IT WAS SO DELICIOUS.
SALTY-SWEET BROTH ABSORBED IN KATSU, EGG,
OPENS MOUTH WIDE
ONION, AND RICE.

I COULDN'T STOP MY CHOP STICKS.
KATSU, EGG, AND ONION MIXED IN MY MOUTH.

TOSS
THIS IS SILLY!
I DON'T WANNA' READ IT ANYMORE!
GULP
GULP
UH...
GULP
GULP

READ IT.
THERE'S STILL SOME MORE.
NO IDEA!
THAT'S IT?
I HAD TO FIND A JOB TO FEED MYSELF.
SO I CONTACTED ONE OF MY FRIENDS AND HE TOLD ME ABOUT A JOB OPPORTUNITY.
FOR REAL? I DIDN'T THINK THAT HE WENT TO SCHOOL.
THEY HIRED ME IMMEDIATELY!
WHAT'S MORE...
ON MY FIRST DAY, THEY THREW A WELCOMING PARTY FOR ME.

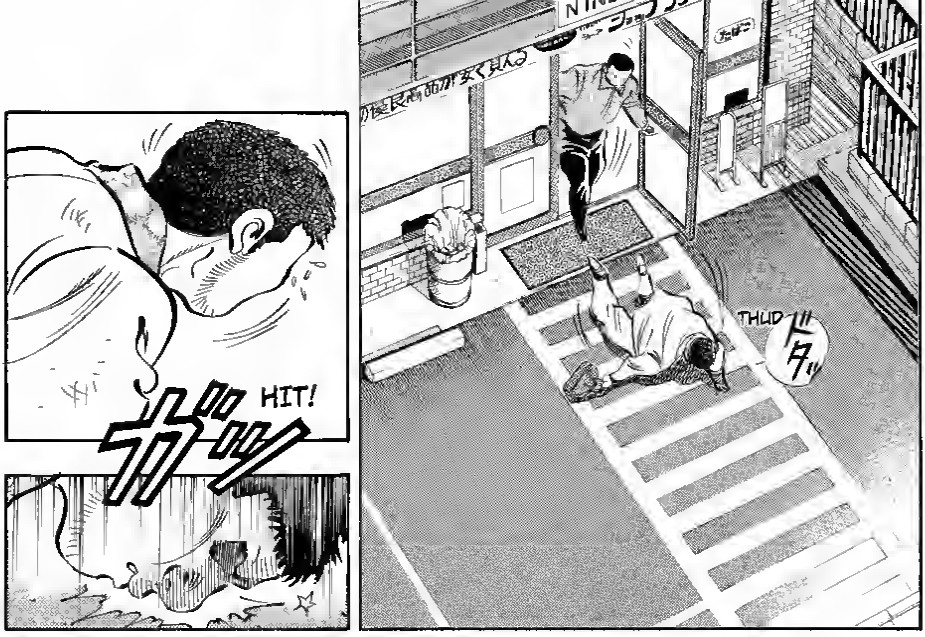
WE HAD THE PARTY UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
SLURP
FREE DRINKS AND CUTE GIRLS.


I COULD EAT FAMOUS RESTAURANT'S LUNCH BOXES AS MUCH AS I WANTED.

ズルズル〜〜
SLURP
TAP
OH MY GOD! SO GOOD!
CHEW
CHEW
ROASTED DUCK MEAT!

EVERYTHING IS SO TASTY AND INCOMPARABLE TO THE OSECHI THAT WE HAD IN PRISON.
DASHIMAKI EGG.
TERIYAKI YELLOWTAIL AND CREAMY CRAB CROQUETTE.
HMM...
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
CRUSH
THIS CAN'T BE TRUE!
AAAAAA HE'S EATING SO GOOD!
CHEW
EAT

チャリ
RATTLE
EVERYTHING IN THAT LETTER IS A LIE, EXCEPT FOR THE PORK KATSU-DON.
HEH HEH HEH.
I'M STARVING.
グウウ
GROWL
I MUST HAVE GOTTEN A PERFECT SCORE WITH THE "LETTER MEAL."
トボ
トボ
FOOT-STEPS
NINES
THIEF!!!
ダッ
RUN

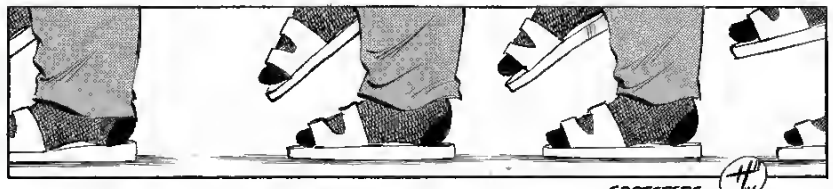

HIT!
THUD

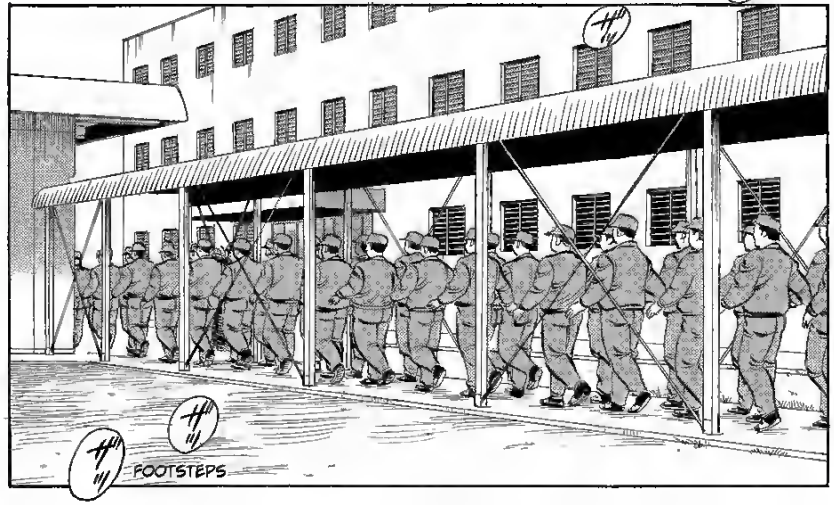
I WANNA' EAT THE OSECHI IN PRISON...
MASAHIKO NOZAWA RETURNED TO JAIL AFTER THREE MONTHS ON PAROLE...

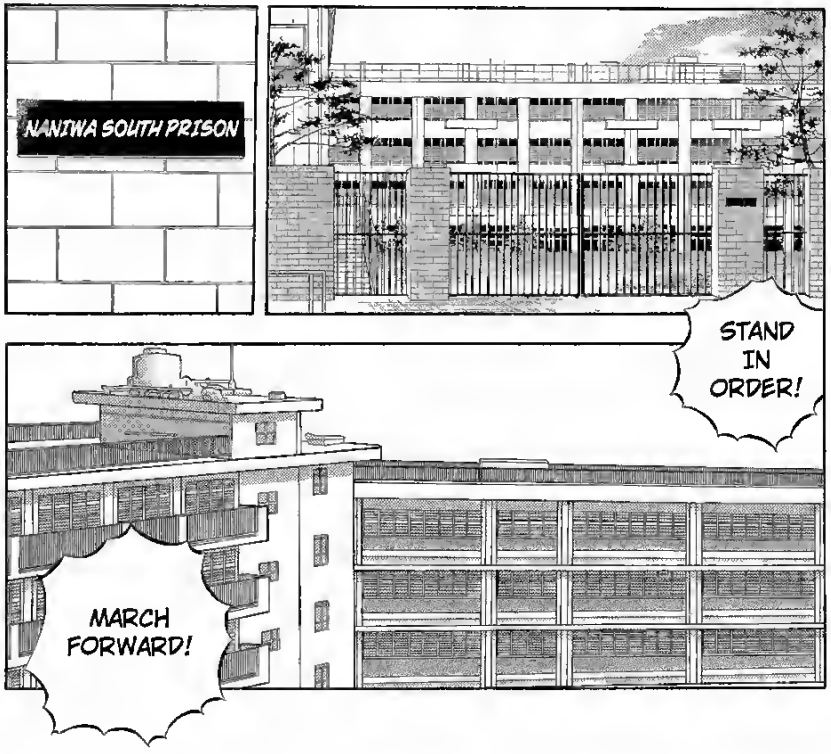
第十三話◉終

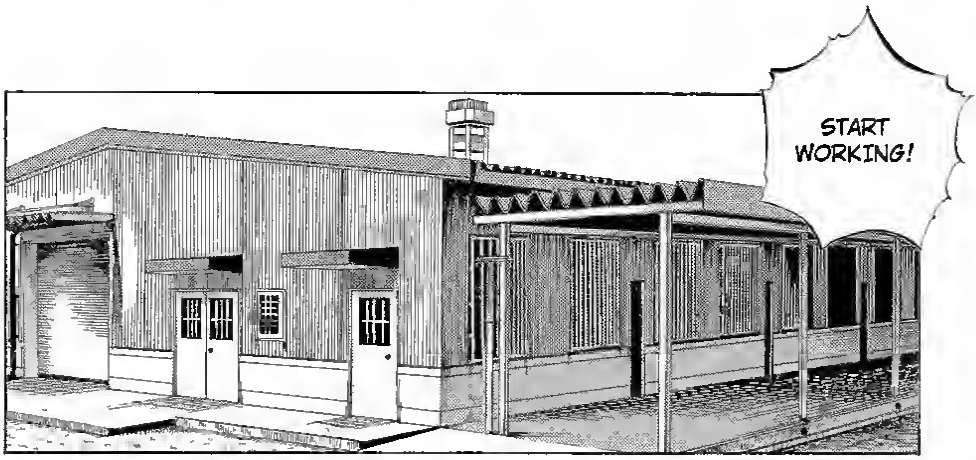
ROOM 307

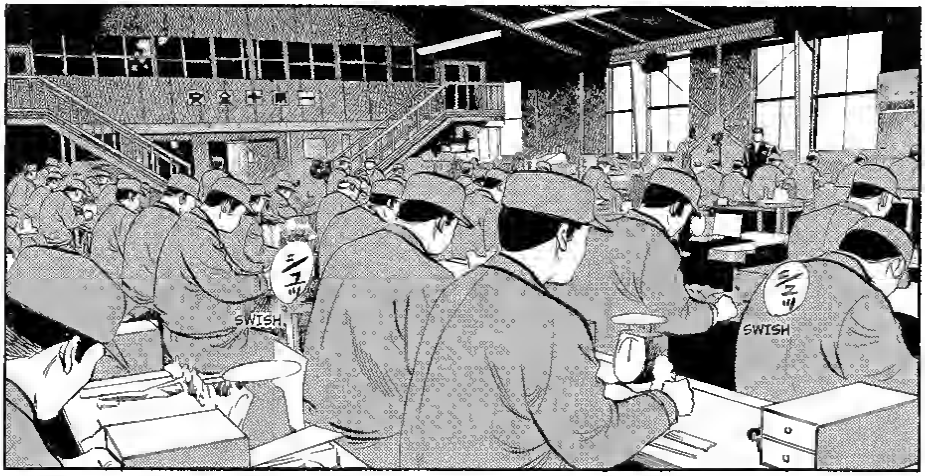
第十四話◉307号房


FOOTSTEPS


FOOTSTEPS


NANIWA SOUTH PRISON
STAND IN ORDER!
MARCH FORWARD!


START WORKING!

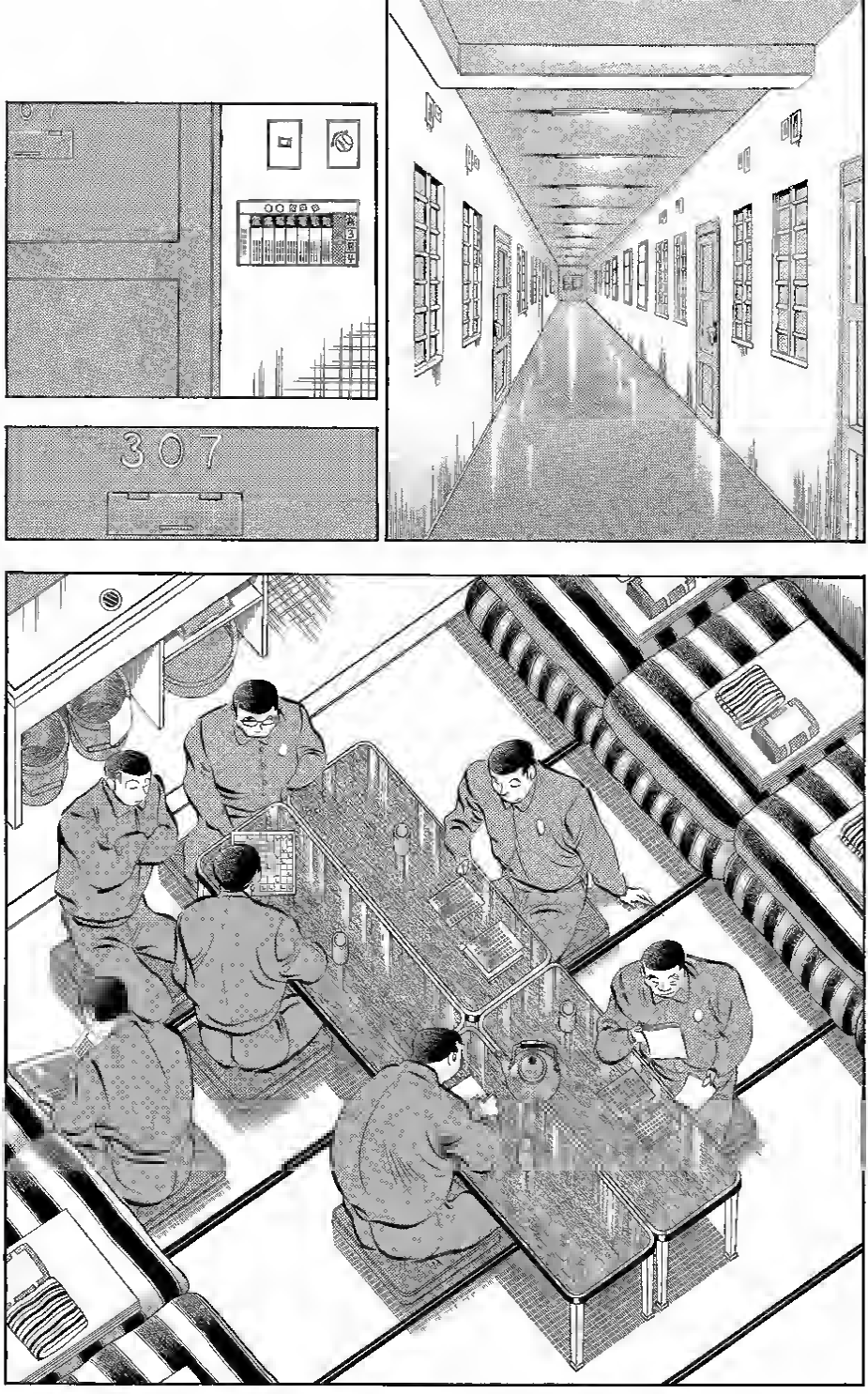

シュッ
SWISH
シュッ
SWISH

UH...!

!

シュッ
SWISH
シュッ
SWISH
シュッ

WHAT'S WRONG, MURATA!
MURATA!
UH...
THUD
MURATA'S FAINTED!
BE QUIET!
GET BACK TO WORK, EVERYBODY!
WHISPER
GRAB

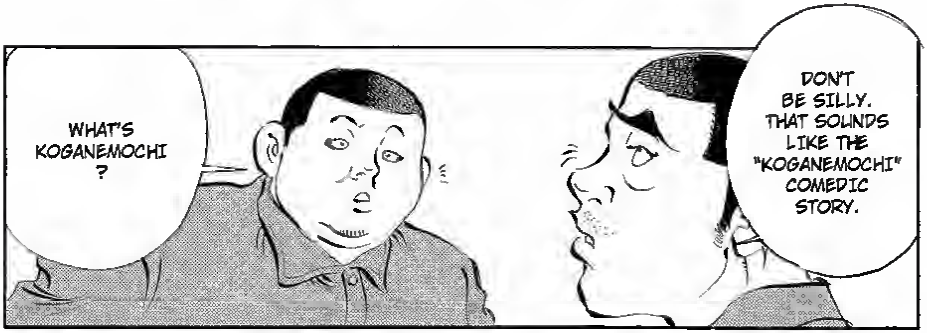

307

CLICK
HIS HEART WAS ALREADY WEAK.
IT SEEMS THAT MURATA DIDN'T MAKE IT...
CLICK
HE NEVER WANTED TO DIE IN PRISON.
THOSE WERE HIS LAST WORDS WEREN'T THEY?
WHAT!? WHAT DID HE SAY?
NOD
BY THE WAY!
DIDN'T HE TELL YOU SOMETHING WHEN HE FELL?

I SEE!
YEAH! HE ROBBED MORE THAN TWENTY BANKS.
MURATA USED TO BE A PROFESSIONAL BANK ROBBER.
DIDN'T HE?
HE TOLD YOU WHERE HE HID HIS TREASURE,
YOU MEAN HE HID IT IN HANPEN?
IT'S "HANPEN."
WHERE IS IT?
HOW MUCH IS IT?
NOPE!
ARE YOU TRYING TO KEEP IT TO YOURSELF?

I WANNA EAT BLACK HANPEN.
DID HE HIDE HIS TREASURE IN IT?
B-BLACK HANPEN?
GOT IT!
HE SAID NOTHING ABOUT HIDING ANYTHING.
MURATA CHANGED ALL HIS TREASURE INTO COINS AND HID THEM IN HANPEN.
THEN HE WANTED TO EAT THEM BEFORE HE DIED.
HE SAID HE WANTED TO EAT.

NOTE: HANPEN IS A KIND OF FISH CAKE IN JAPAN.


WHAT'S KOGANEMOCHI ?
DON'T BE SILLY. THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE "KOGANEMOCHI" COMEDIC STORY.

A MAN, WHO HAD BEEN PEEKING THIS THROUGH THE NEIGHBORING WALL, TOOK THESE COINS OUT OF THE MONK'S BELLY AT A CREMATORY.
THERE WAS A POOR MONK WHO KEPT COLLECTING COINS.
THE MAN THEN SPENT THE MONEY TO OPEN UP HIS OWN RICE CAKE SHOP AND CALLED IT KOGANEMOCHI. THE BUSINESS BECAME A HUGE SUCCESS.
WHEN HE BECAME ILL AND ABOUT TO DIE, HE PUT THE COINS INTO RICE CAKES AND ATE ALL OF THEM.

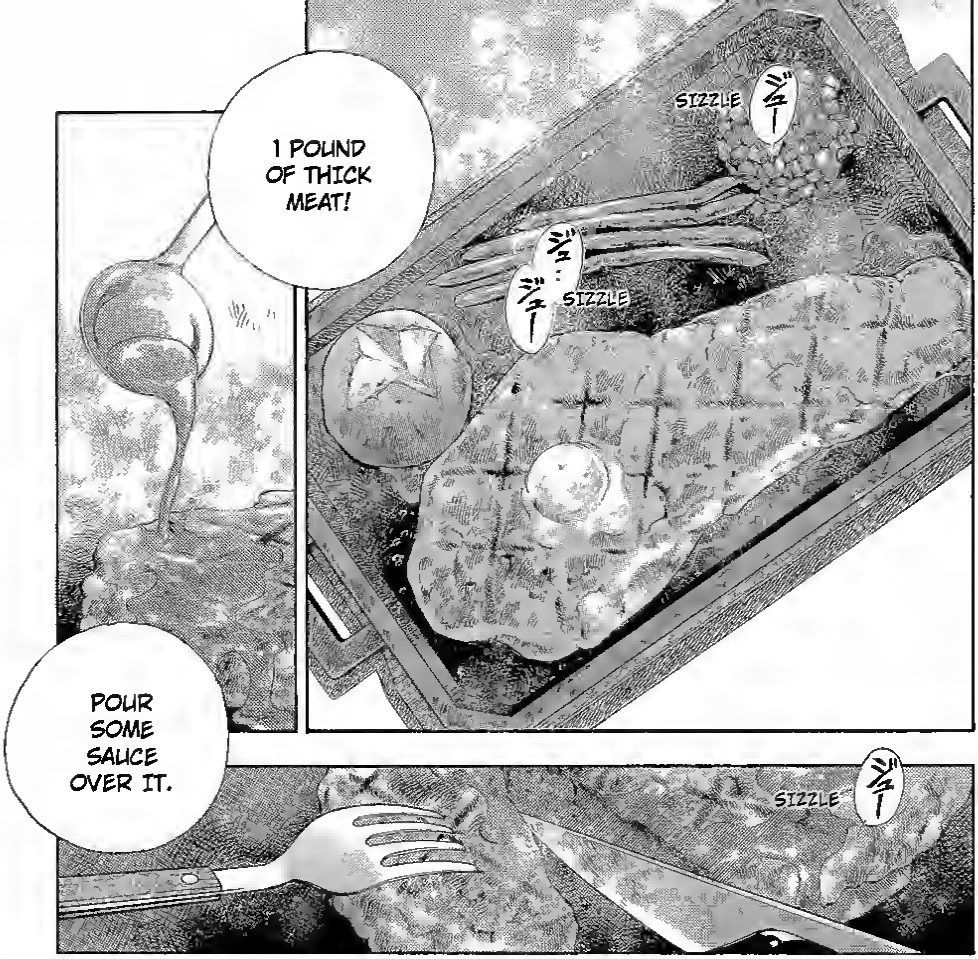
THAT'S GROSS!

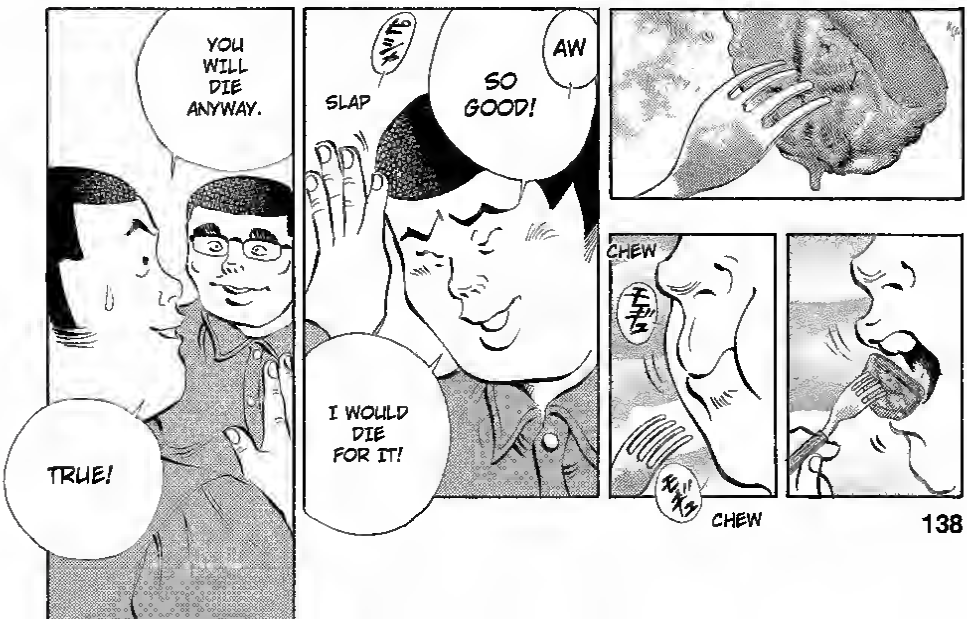
MURATA WAS TALKING ABOUT BLACK HANPEN.
I'VE NEVER SEEN A BLACK ONE.
HANPEN IS A SOFT WHITE THING THAT PEOPLE LIKE TO PUT IN ODEN IN TOKYO.
IT'S NOT POPULAR HERE IN OSAKA.
WHO WOULD DO SUCH A DUMB THING!

NOTE: JIROCHOU SHIMIZUNO WAS A JAPANESE PROFESSIONAL GAMBLER, BORN IN SHIZUOKA IN 1820.

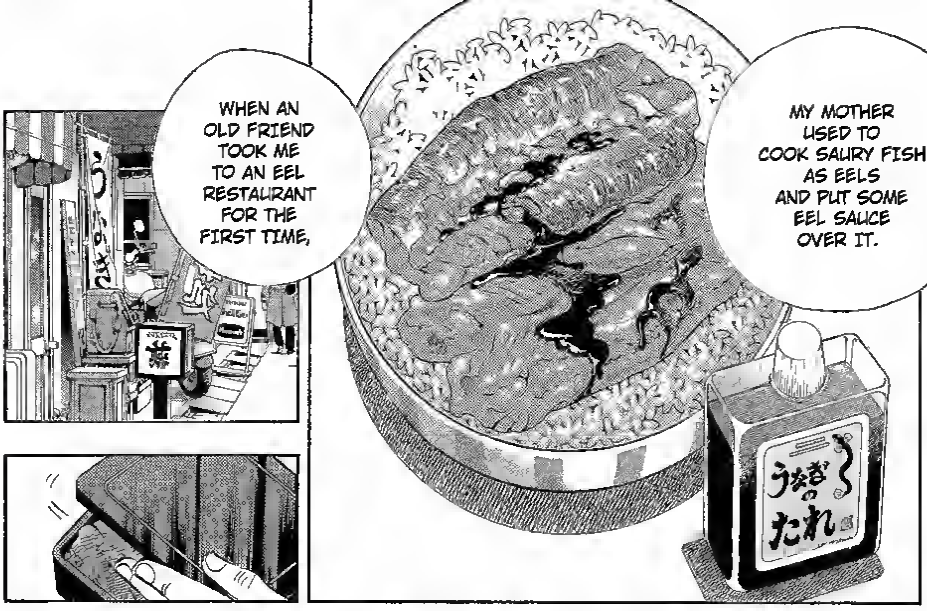
HMM ...
ODEN IS POPULAR IN SHIZUOKA.
THERE IS A PLACE CALLED ODEN YOKOCHO WHERE ODEN SHOPS LINE THE STREET.
THEY COOK WITH BEEF BROTH.
BEFORE YOU EAT, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PUT FISH POWDER AND GREEN SEAWEED SPRINKLES ON YOUR FOOD.
IT WAS ORIGINALLY MADE FOR KIDS AND WAS SOLD AT CANDY STORES.
I SEE!

MURATA WANTED TO EAT IT BEFORE HE DIED!
HE WANTED TO EAT HIS FAVORITE CHILDHOOD FOOD BEFORE DYING.
I WOULD EAT...
BEEF STEAK.
THE LAST SUPPER.
THE LAST...
FOOD...
SANKICHI YANAGI
FOUR YEARS AND THREE MONTHS OF IMPRISON-MENT.


1 POUND OF THICK MEAT!
SIZZLE
ジュー
SIZZLE
ジュー
POUR SOME SAUCE OVER IT.
SIZZLE
ジュー


YOU WILL DIE ANYWAY.
TRUE!
SLAP
ペシ
AW
SO GOOD!
I WOULD DIE FOR IT!
CHEW
モグモグ
CHEW

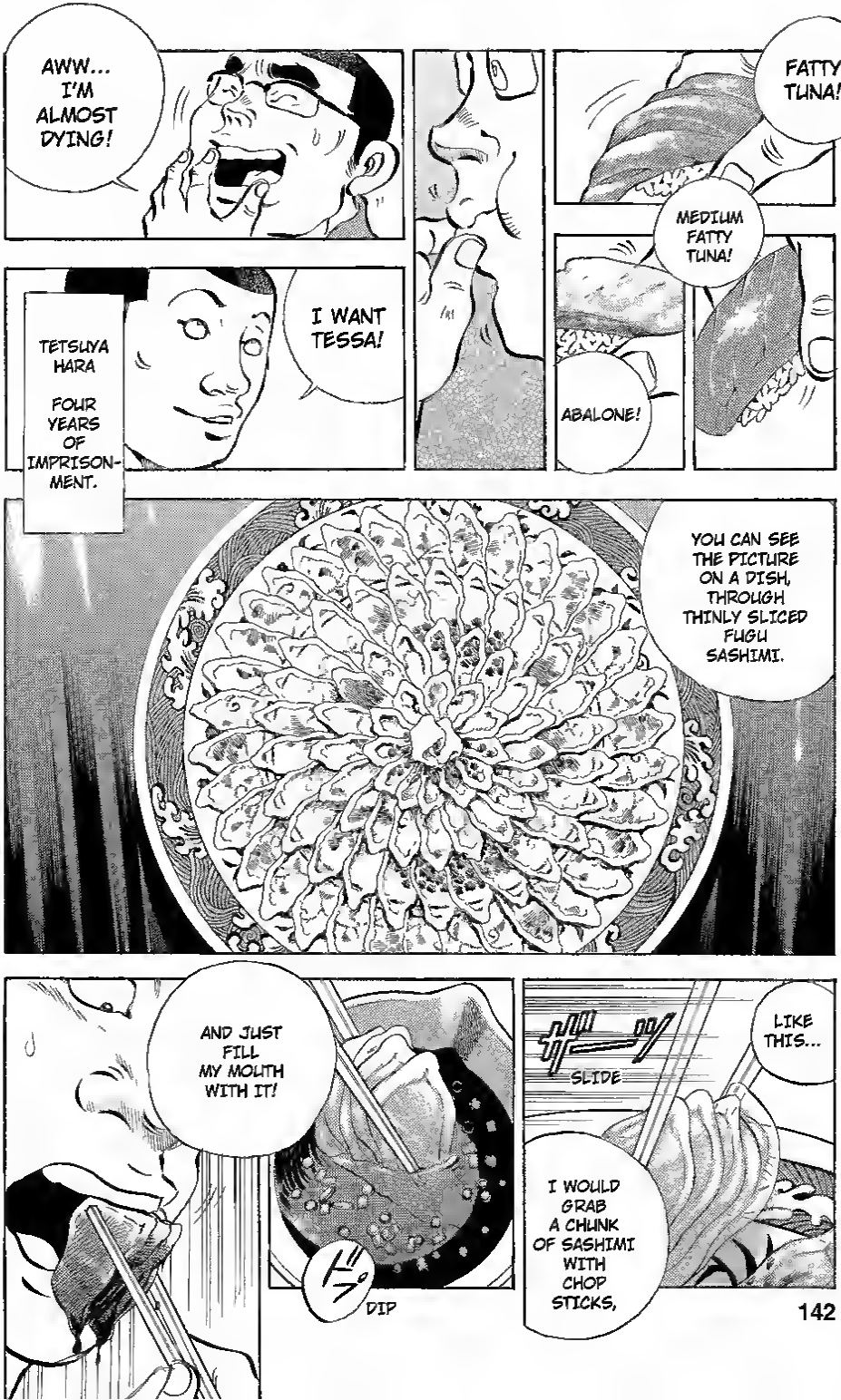
I WOULD EAT SPITCHCOCK EELS!
KUNIO MAEDA
FIVE YEARS OF IMPRI-SONMENT.
THE MOST EXPENSIVE ONE!
WITH A CUP OF EEL-LIVER SOUP!
DON'T WORRY, YOU WILL DIE FOR SURE.
I WANNA EAT IT SO MUCH I COULD DIE.
MUNCH
MUNCH
UP UNTIL I WAS TWENTY, I THOUGHT THAT SPITCHCOCK EELS ONLY CAME IN CANS.
I GREW UP IN A POOR FAMILY...


WHEN AN OLD FRIEND TOOK ME TO AN EEL RESTAURANT FOR THE FIRST TIME,
MY MOTHER USED TO COOK SAURY FISH AS EELS AND PUT SOME EEL SAUCE OVER IT.
うなぎのたれ

I SCREAMED LIKE THAT AND EMBARRASSED MYSELF.
"THESE AREN'T EELS!"

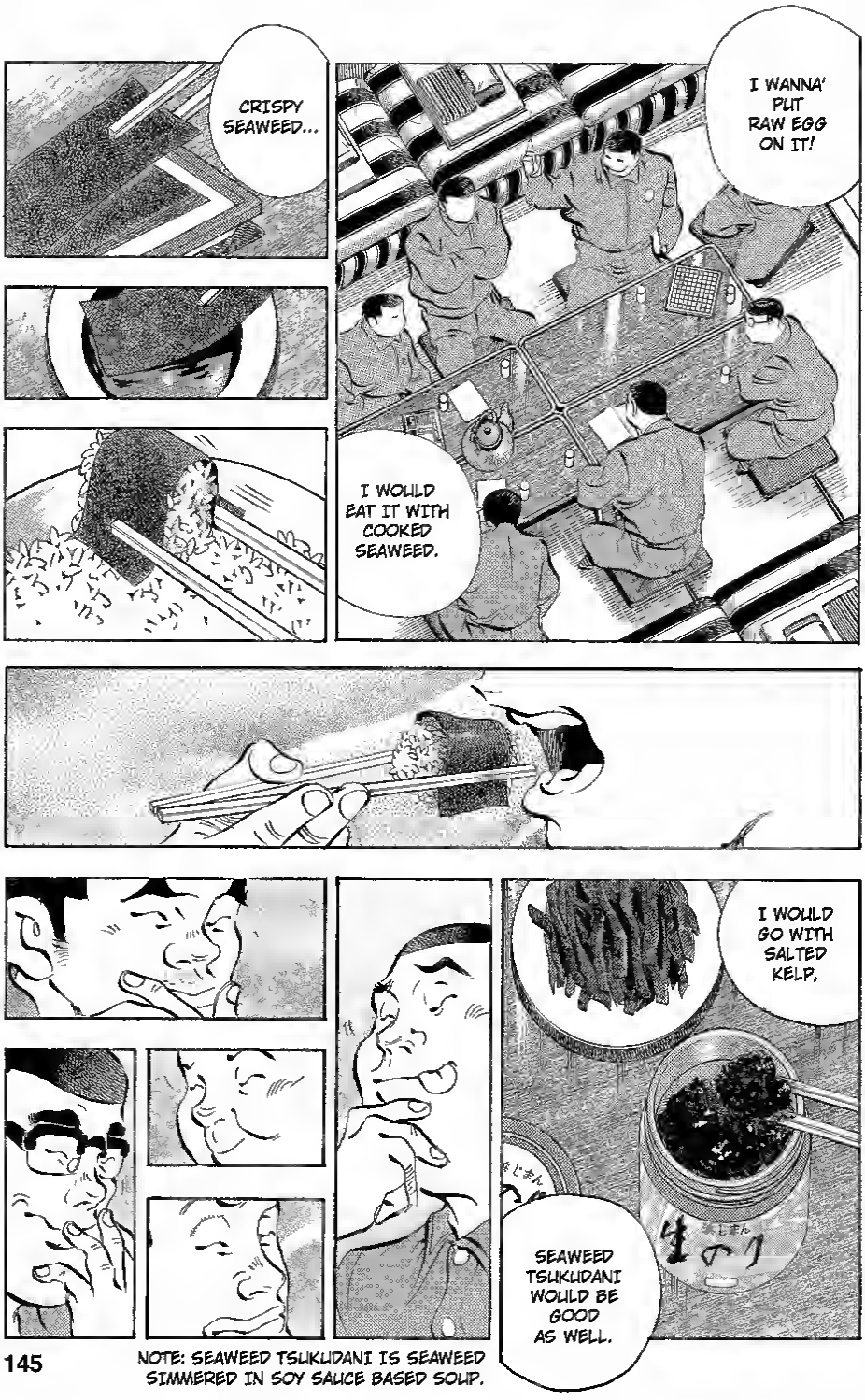
I WOULD EAT...
YUZURU SHIMAMOTO
THREE YEARS AND SEVEN MONTHS OF IMPRISON-MENT.
THEN AGAIN, EVERYONE ELSE PROBABLY HAS THE SAME KIND OF STORY.
HEH HEH.
THAT'S A SAD STORY...

A BOWLFUL OF SALMON ROE AND SEA URCHIN OVER RICE!
I WANNA' EAT THEM WITHOUT CARING IF THEY FALL OUT OF THE BOWL!
IF I'M GONNA' DIE ANYWAY, I WANNA' EAT AS MUCH AS I WANT.
CHEW
I HAVE HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, SO I USED TO HAVE FOOD RESTRICTIONS OUTSIDE OF PRISON.
IT MUST BE AN EXTRA SPECIAL SERVING, JUST FOR ME.
I WANT SUSHI!
HIROSHI IZUMIYA
TWO YEARS AND SIX MONTHS OF IMPRISON-MENT.


AWW... I'M ALMOST DYING!
FATTY TUNA!
MEDIUM FATTY TUNA!
ABALONE!
I WANT TESSA!
TETSUYA HARA
FOUR YEARS OF IMPRISON-MENT.
YOU CAN SEE THE PICTURE ON A DISH, THROUGH THINLY SLICED FUGU SASHIMI.
LIKE THIS...
SLIDE
I WOULD GRAB A CHUNK OF SASHIMI WITH CHOP STICKS,
DIP
AND JUST FILL MY MOUTH WITH IT!

TRUE...
BUT TESSA ITSELF DOESN'T HAVE MUCH FLAVOR, SO IT JUST TASTES LIKE PONZU SAUCE, DOESN'T IT?
O-OKAY...
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU GUYS ARE EATING AT CHEAP RESTAURANTS!
GOROU OKADA
FIVE YEARS AND THREE MONTHS OF IMPRISON-MENT.
I WANNA' EAT CURRY UDON.
IF YOU GO TO AN EXPENSIVE PLACE, TESSA HAS IT'S OWN TASTE!
IT'D BE AMAZING!
AFTER EATING HOT UDON NOODLES,
SOUNDS GOOD.
I WOULD PUT WHITE RICE IN THE CURRY SOUP THAT'S LEFT IN THE BOWL.

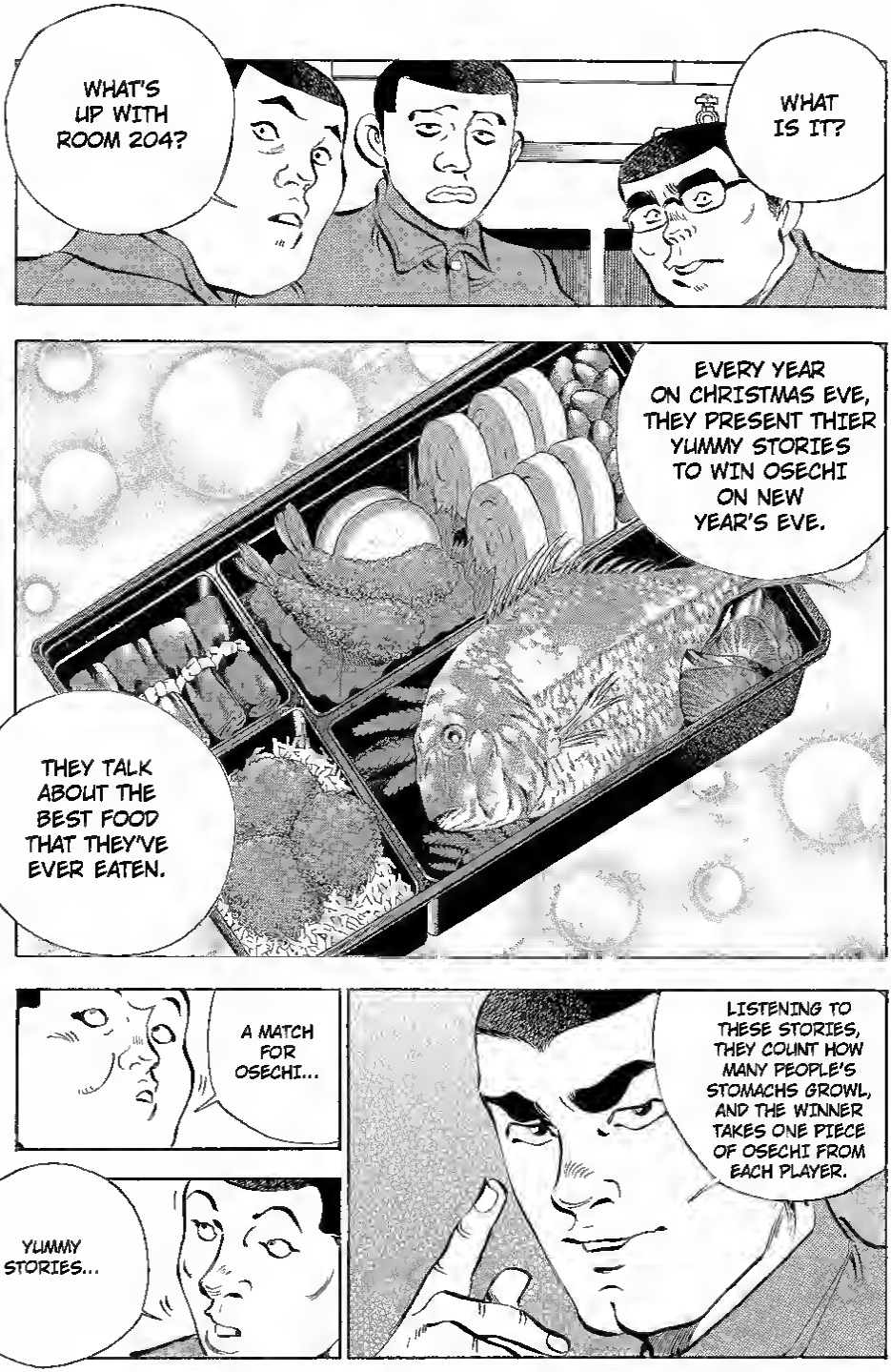
RYUJI INOUE
SIX YEARS OF IMPRISON-MENT.
IT'S GOTTA BE WHITE RICE FOR THE LAST SUPPER, RIGHT?
FRESHLY COOKED WHITE RICE WITH MISO SOUP.
猪ノ上
YOU'RE RIGHT...
WHITE RICE WOULD BE THE BEST...
INGREDIENTS FOR THE MISO SOUP WOULD BE SEAWEED AND TOFU.


CRISPY SEAWEED...
I WANNA' PUT RAW EGG ON IT!
I WOULD EAT IT WITH COOKED SEAWEED.
I WOULD GO WITH SALTED KELP.
SEAWEED TSUKUDANI WOULD BE GOOD AS WELL.

NOTE: SEAWEED TSUKUDANI IS SEAWEED SIMMERED IN SOY SAUCE BASED SOUP.

THE LAST SUPPER SHOULD BE FRESHLY COOKED WHITE RICE.
浜じまん
生のり

DO YOU KNOW THE STORY OF ROOM 204?

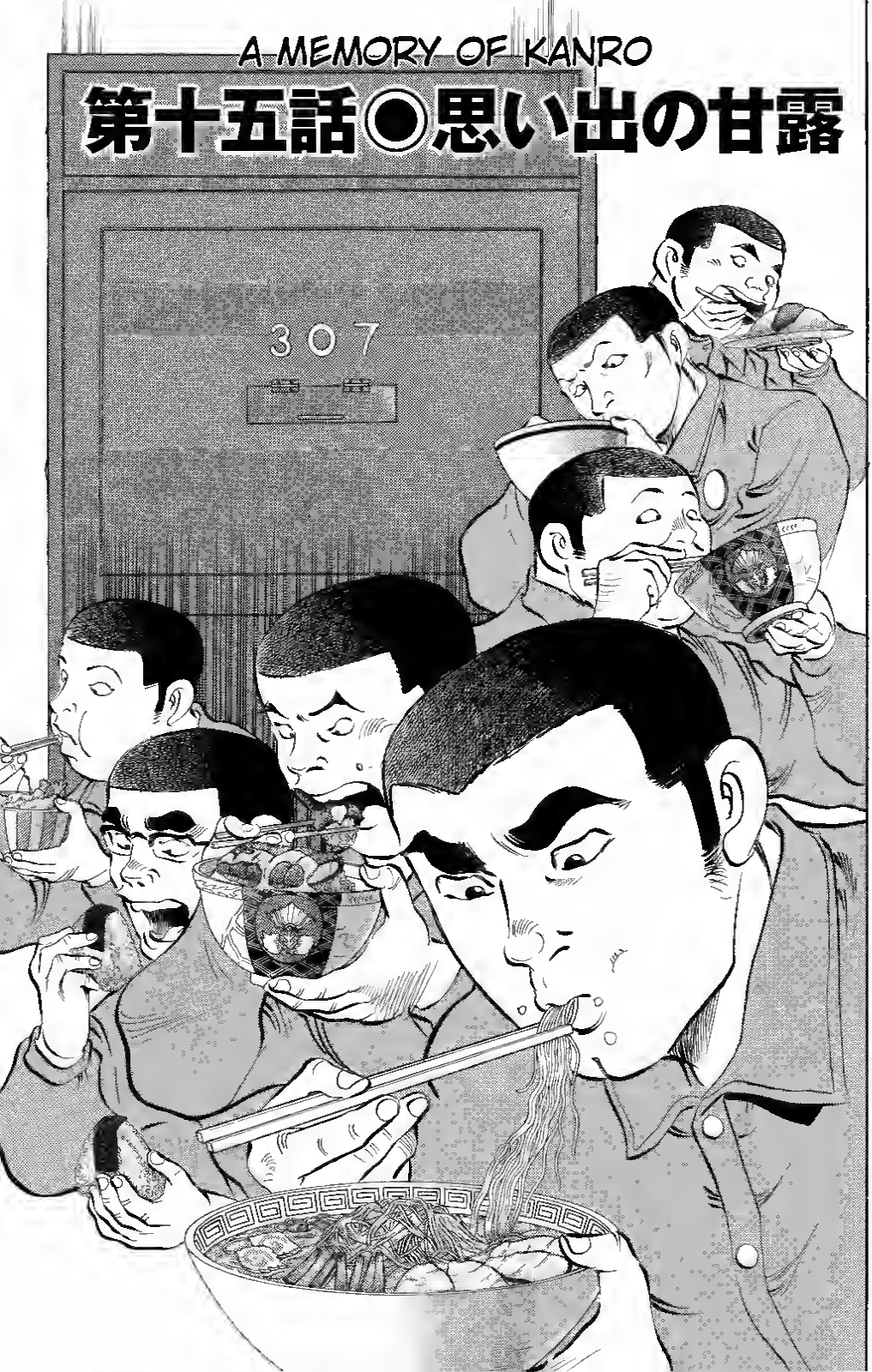

WHAT'S UP WITH ROOM 204?
WHAT IS IT?
EVERY YEAR ON CHRISTMAS EVE, THEY PRESENT THIER YUMMY STORIES TO WIN OSECHI ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.
THEY TALK ABOUT THE BEST FOOD THAT THEY'VE EVER EATEN.
A MATCH FOR OSECHI...
YUMMY STORIES...
LISTENING TO THESE STORIES, THEY COUNT HOW MANY PEOPLE'S STOMACHS GROWL, AND THE WINNER TAKES ONE PIECE OF OSECHI FROM EACH PLAYER.

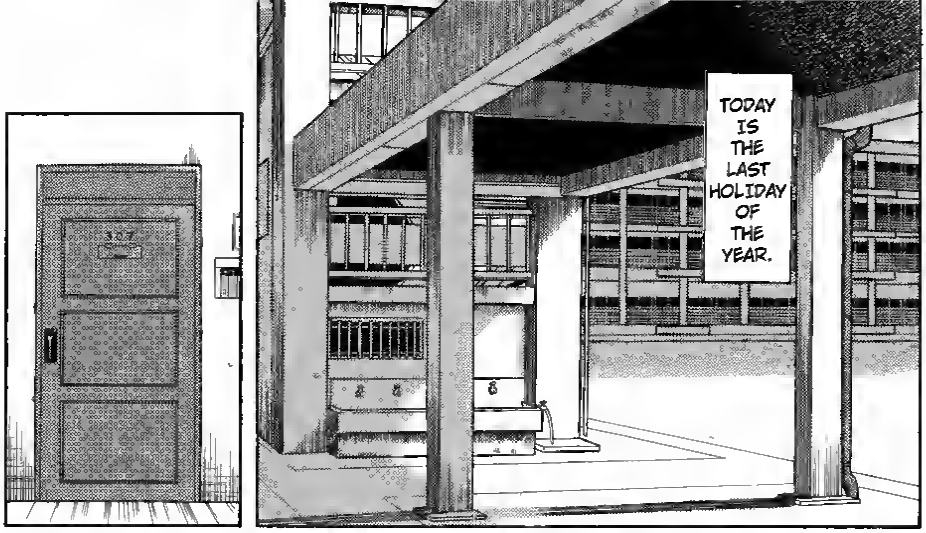
THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING.
THE MATCH OF YUMMY STORIES SPREAD FROM ROOM 204 TO ROOM 307.
AT THIS MOMENT, THERE WAS STILL NO ONE WHO EXPECTED IT TO BE THE MOST POPULAR EVENT IN NANIWA SOUTH PRISON.

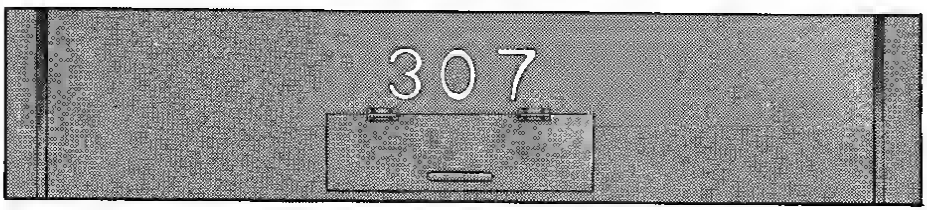
第十四話◉終

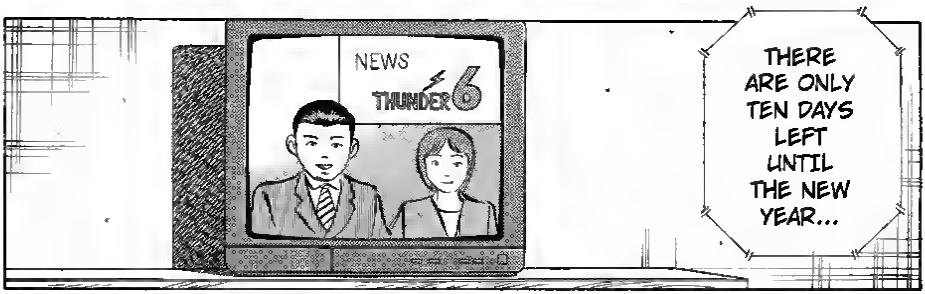
A MEMORY OF KANRO

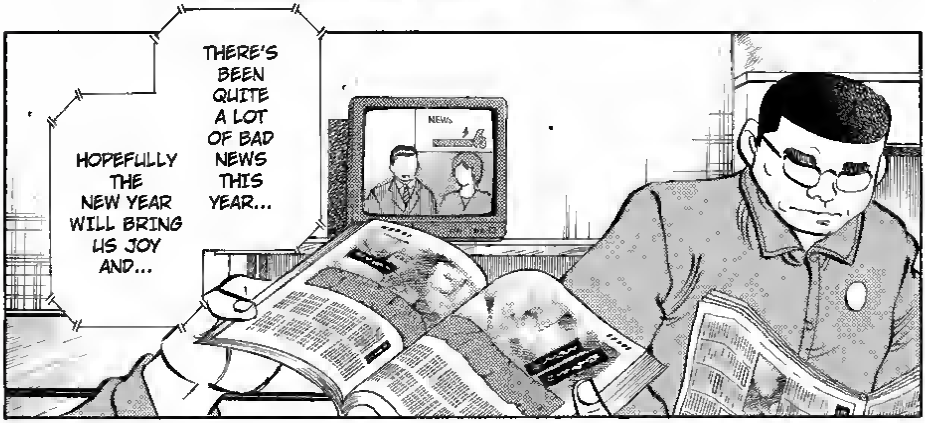
第十五話◉思い出の甘露

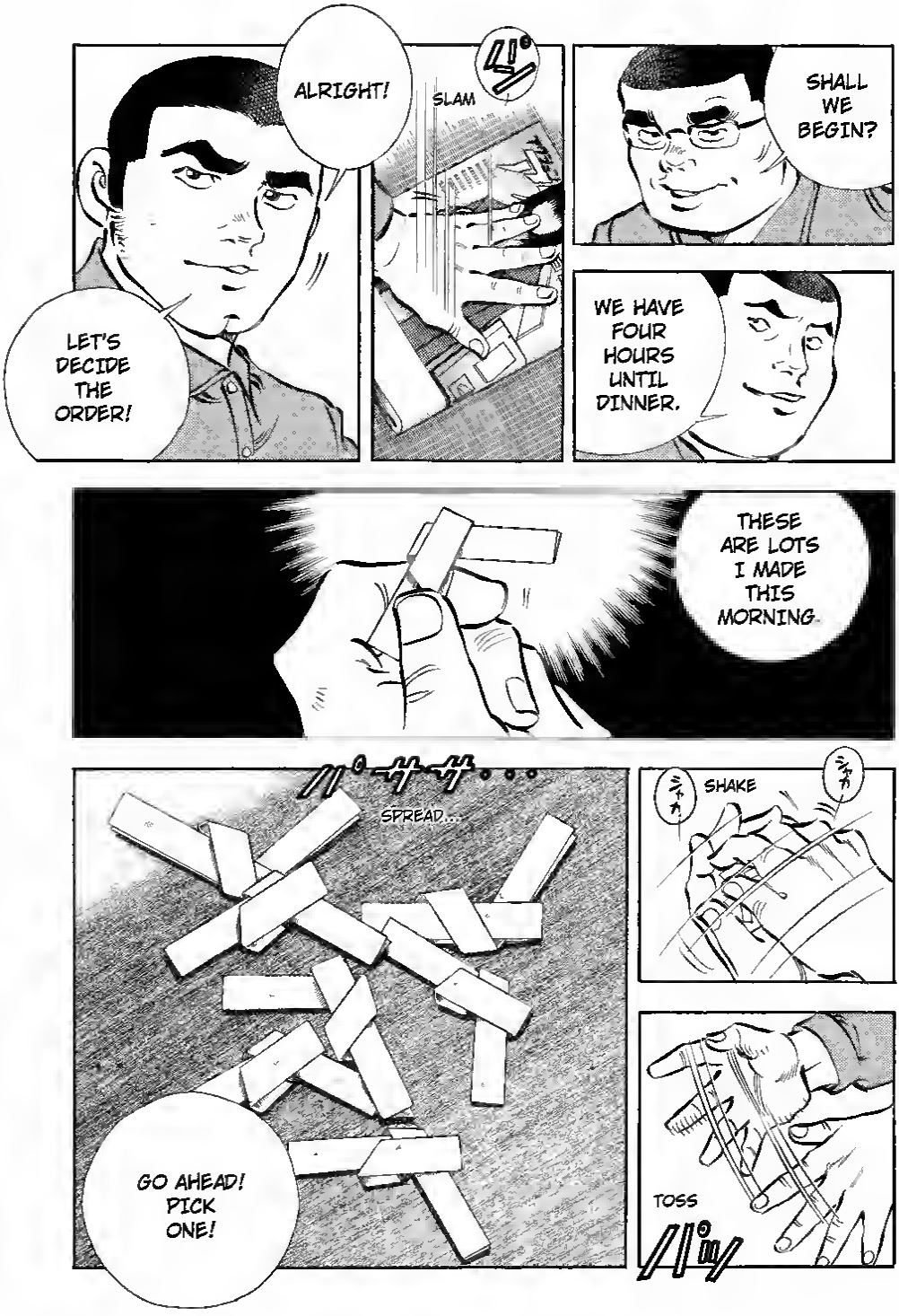


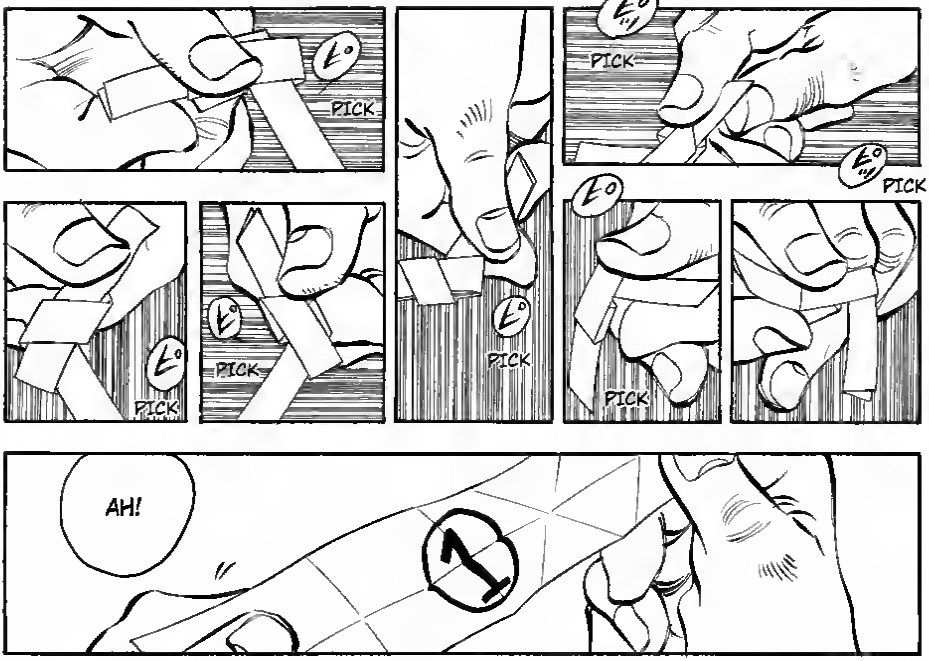

TODAY IS THE LAST HOLIDAY OF THE YEAR.


307


NEWS
THUNDER 6
THERE ARE ONLY TEN DAYS LEFT UNTIL THE NEW YEAR...

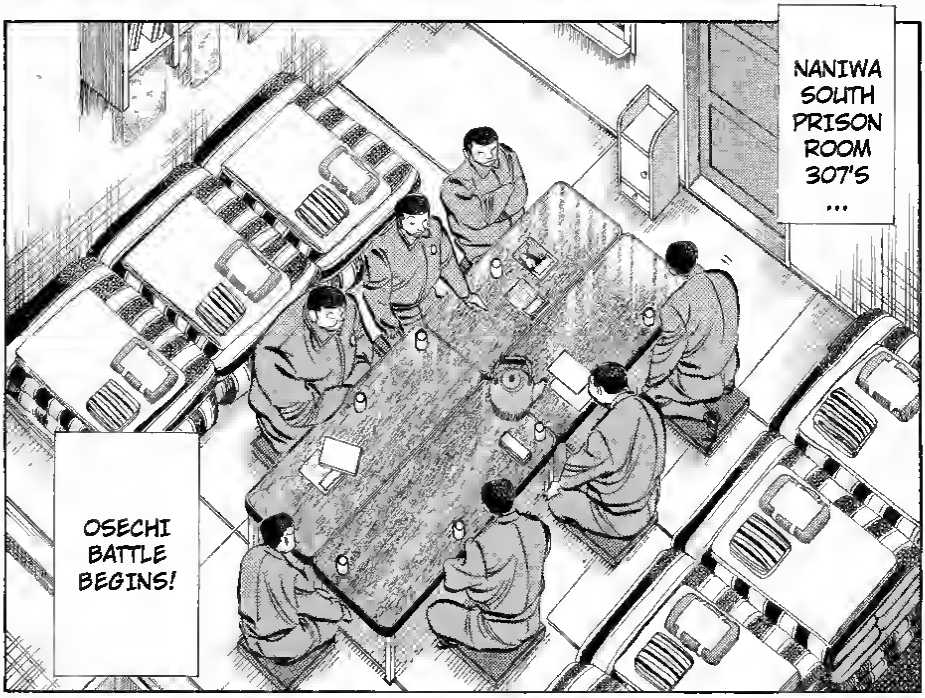

HOPEFULLY THE NEW YEAR WILL BRING US JOY AND...
THERE'S BEEN QUITE A LOT OF BAD NEWS THIS YEAR...


ALRIGHT!
LET'S DECIDE THE ORDER!
SLAM
SHALL WE BEGIN?
WE HAVE FOUR HOURS UNTIL DINNER.
THESE ARE LOTS I MADE THIS MORNING.
SPREAD...
GO AHEAD! PICK ONE!
SHAKE
TOSS

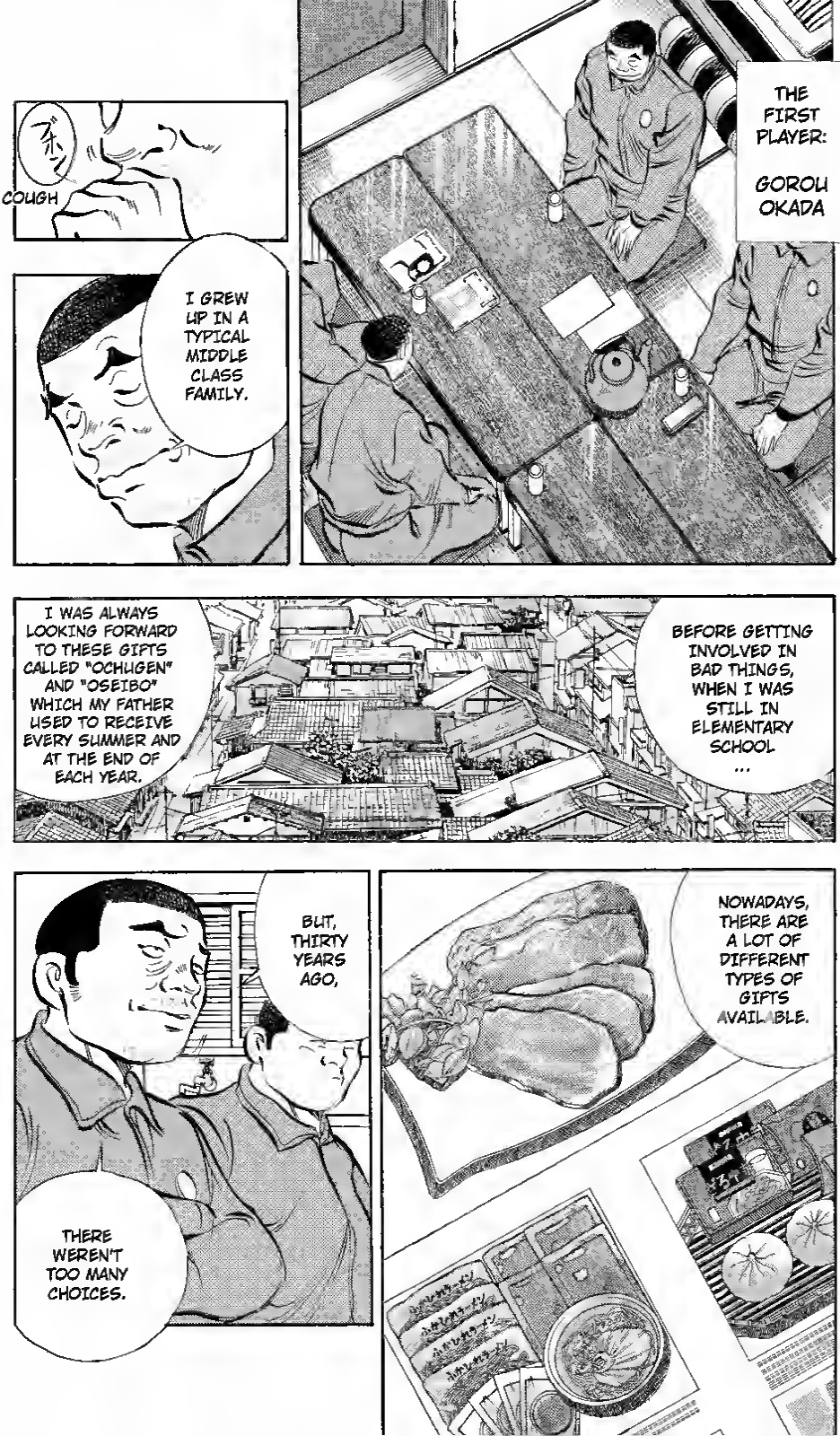

PICK
PICK
PICK
PICK
PICK
PICK
PICK
AH!

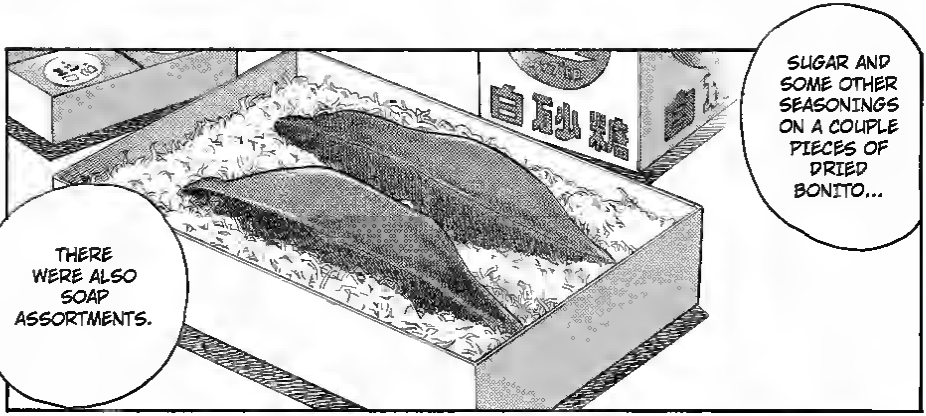
I'M SECOND!
I'M FIRST!
FOURTH!
THIRD!
SIXTH!
FIFTH!

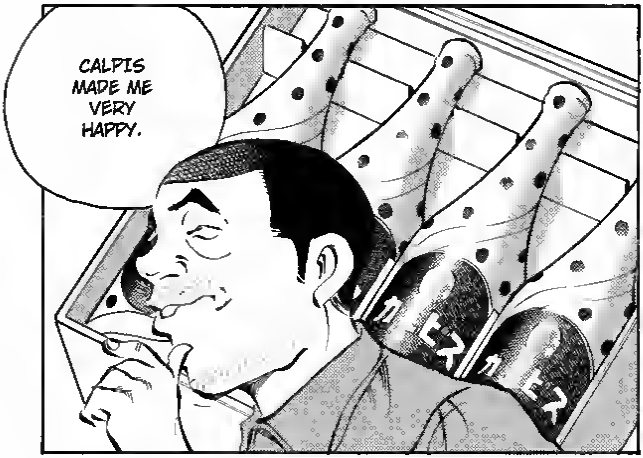
I'M LAST.


NANIWA SOUTH PRISON ROOM 307'S ...
OSECHI BATTLE BEGINS!

I BROUGHT IT UP FIRST, SO I'LL BE THE REFEREE. IS THAT ALRIGHT?
THAT'S FINE.

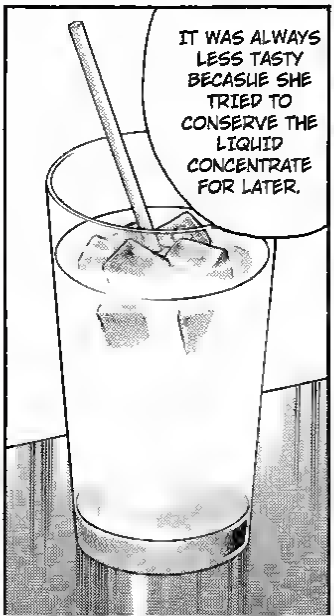

THE FIRST PLAYER:
GOROU OKADA
ゴホン
COUGH
I GREW UP IN A TYPICAL MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY.
I WAS ALWAYS LOOKING FORWARD TO THESE GIFTS CALLED "OCHUGEN" AND "OSEIBO" WHICH MY FATHER USED TO RECEIVE EVERY SUMMER AND AT THE END OF EACH YEAR.
BEFORE GETTING INVOLVED IN BAD THINGS, WHEN I WAS STILL IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ...
BUT, THIRTY YEARS AGO,
THERE WEREN'T TOO MANY CHOICES.
NOWADAYS, THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF GIFTS AVAILABLE.


SUGAR AND SOME OTHER SEASONINGS ON A COUPLE PIECES OF DRIED BONITO...
THERE WERE ALSO SOAP ASSORTMENTS.


CALPIS MADE ME VERY HAPPY.

AND CALPIS!

THAT'S RIGHT!


IT WAS ALWAYS LESS TASTY BECASUE SHE TRIED TO CONSERVE THE LIQUID CONCENTRATE FOR LATER.

AS KIDS WE WEREN'T EVEN ALLOWED TO TOUCH IT, BUT WHEN MY MOM MADE CULPIS,

IT WAS ALWAYS MY MOTHER'S JOB TO MAKE CALPIS.
POUR

IS THAT YOUR STORY'S FOOD?
NOPE.
SLURP
POUR
I WANTED TO PUT IN A LOT OF CONCENTRATE TO MAKE IT STRONGER. I DREAMT OF THAT AT THE TIME.
ORANGE, PEACH, AND APPLE.
THERE WERE MANY KINDS, BUT...
MY YUMMY FOOD IS ...
A TYPE OF CANNED FRUIT!
MY FAVORITE WAS CANNED PINEAPPLE!

GOKUDO
グシャ
CRUSH
ヨク
TEAR
ヨク
ヨク
TEAR
TWO SLICES OF PINEAPPLE IN A GLASS DISH.
THAT WAS MY MOST LUXURIOUS DESSERT AT THE TIME.

WHEN I PRESS IT IN MY MOUTH, THE TASTY JUICES POUR OUT...
GULP
A SLICE OF ROUND PINEAPPLE,
I CUT IT WITH A SMALL FORK.
SMALL DICED UP PEACHES AND ORANGES.
THAT CAN'T MAKE OUR STOMACH GROWL.
NOPE.
IF YOU'RE TALKING JUST ABOUT CANNED FRUITS, WE CAN EAT THEM HERE IN JAIL.
YEAH, IT USUALLY COMES ON THE SIDE WHEN WE HAVE BREAD...

THE TRUE ATTRACTION OF CANNED FRUIT IS THE SYRUP.
SLURP
I WANTED TO DRINK IT STRAIGHT FROM THE CAN!
THAT THICK, SWEET JUICE!
GOKUDO
PLENTY
ONCE, MY MOM LEFT AN OPEN ONE IN THE KITCHEN.

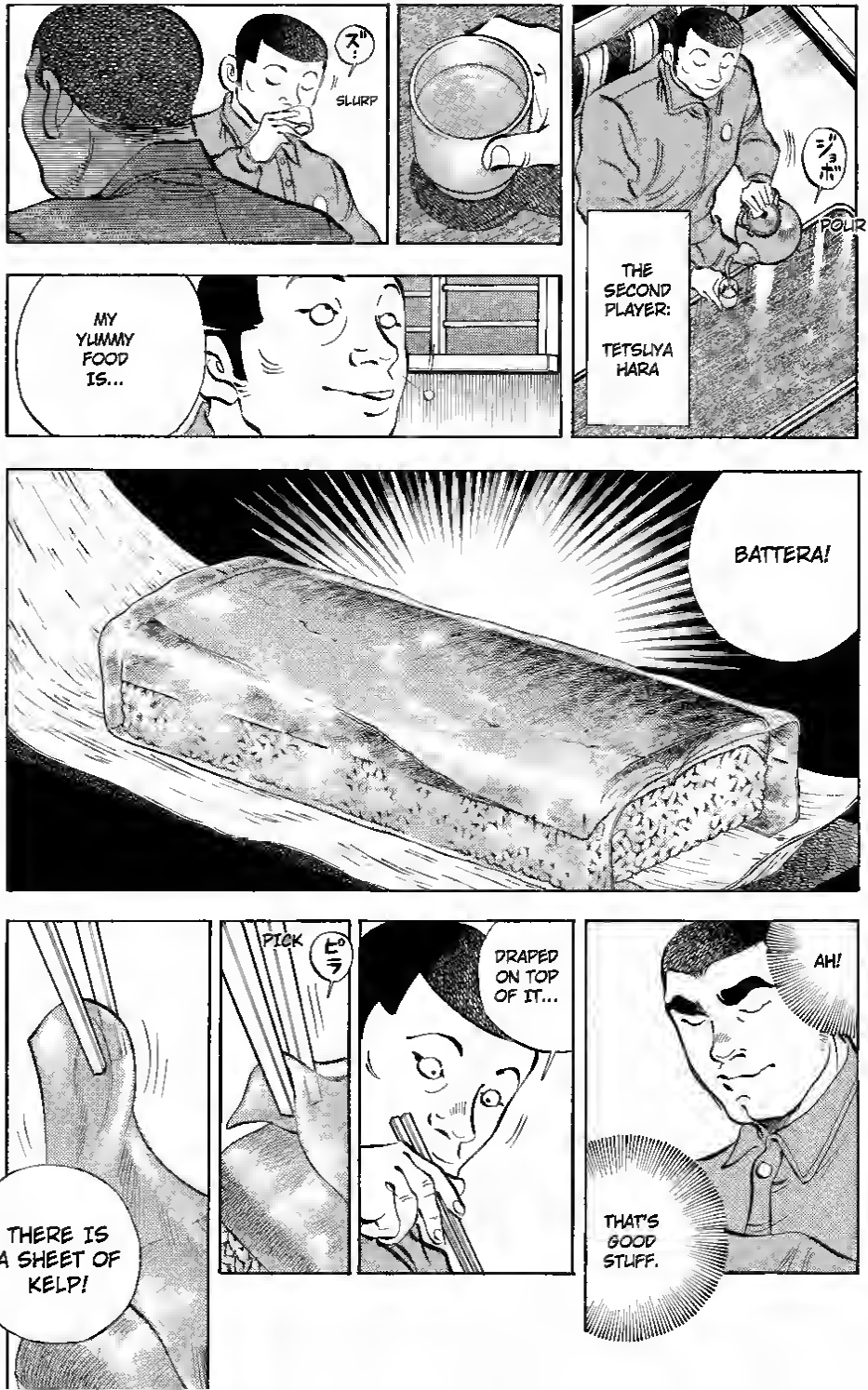
GULP
WATCH OUT FOR THE SHARP RIM OF THE CAN.
パインアップル
GULP
GULP
CHUCKLE
IT WAS SO DELICIOUS!
PHEW
IT WAS BETTER THAN ANY OTHER KIND OF DRINK!
GULP
GULP

GULP
GULP
GULP
HOW CAN HE EXPECT US TO MAKE NOISES FOR SOMETHING LIKE CANNED PINEAPPLE SYRUP FROM HIS CHILDHOOD?
WHAT!?
T-THREE OF YOU MADE NOISES IN YOUR THROATS!
GULP
YOU MADE ME WANNA' DRINK IT TOO.
SIGH
I FEEL YA.
SIGH

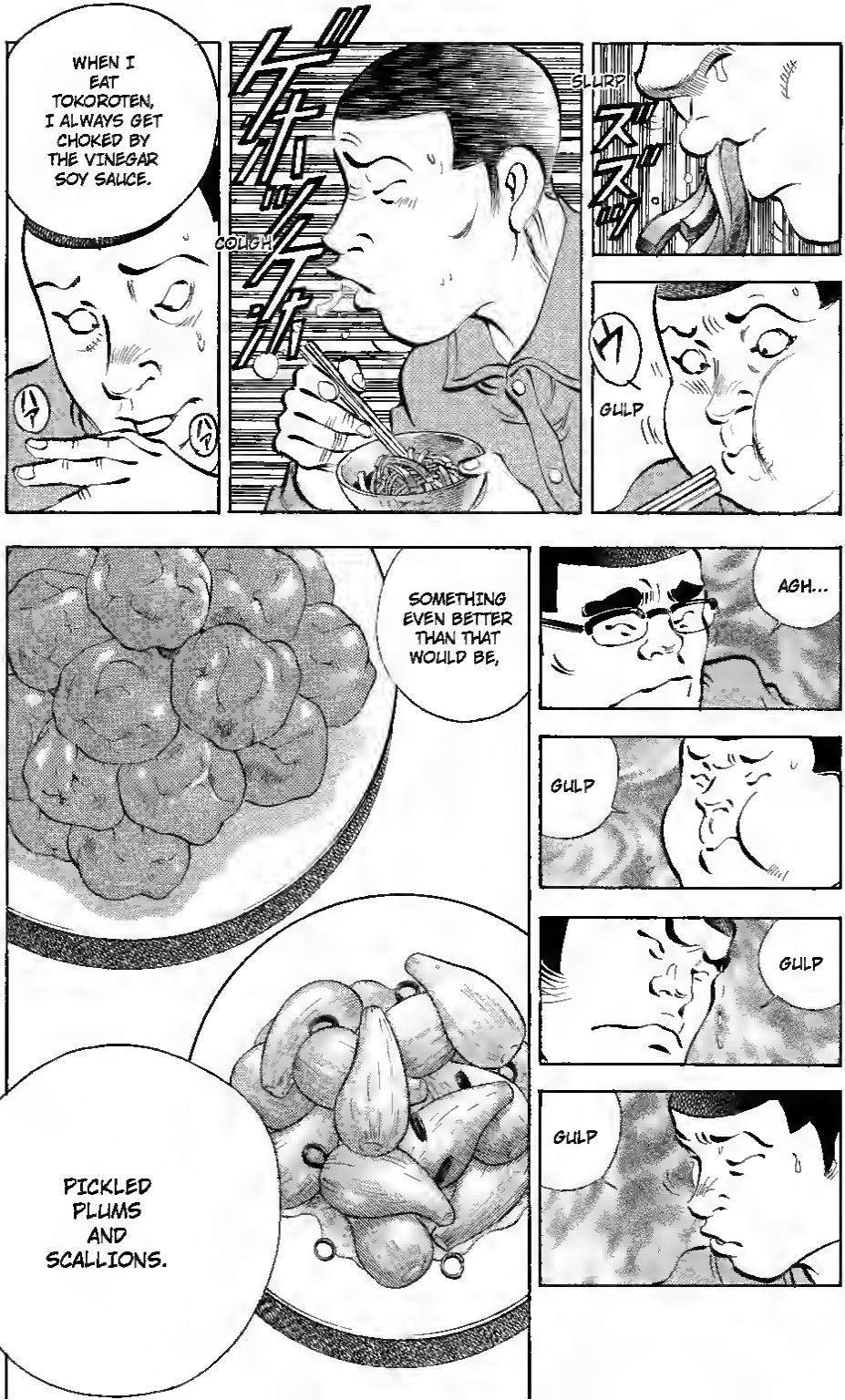
AWESOME!
I GOT
THREE POINTS!

②
①岡田吾郎 3点
HERE IS THE PLACE THAT YOU SENSE YUMMINESS.
ANY UNEXPECTED FOOD CAN BE STIMULATING.
THREE POINTS JUST FOR CANNED PINEAPPLE SYRUP...
UH...

301
NEXT!


ズ
SLURP
ジョボ
POUR
THE SECOND PLAYER:
TETSUYA HARA
MY YUMMY FOOD IS...
BATTERA!
THERE IS A SHEET OF KELP!
PICK
ヒラ
DRAPED ON TOP OF IT...
AH!
THAT'S GOOD STUFF.

BITE
THAT PICKLED KELP IS ...
SO DELICIOUS!
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
WITH SPICY MUSTARD, VINEGAR, AND SOY SAUCE,
TOKOROTEN!
ズズッ
SLURP


WHEN I EAT TOKOROTEN, I ALWAYS GET CHOKED BY THE VINEGAR SOY SAUCE.
COUGH
SLURP
GULP
SOMETHING EVEN BETTER THAN THAT WOULD BE,
AGH...
GULP
GULP
GULP
PICKLED PLUMS AND SCALLIONS.

すっ!!
SOUR!!
シャク
シャク
CHEW
すっぱ
SOUR!!
GULP!
ごくっ!

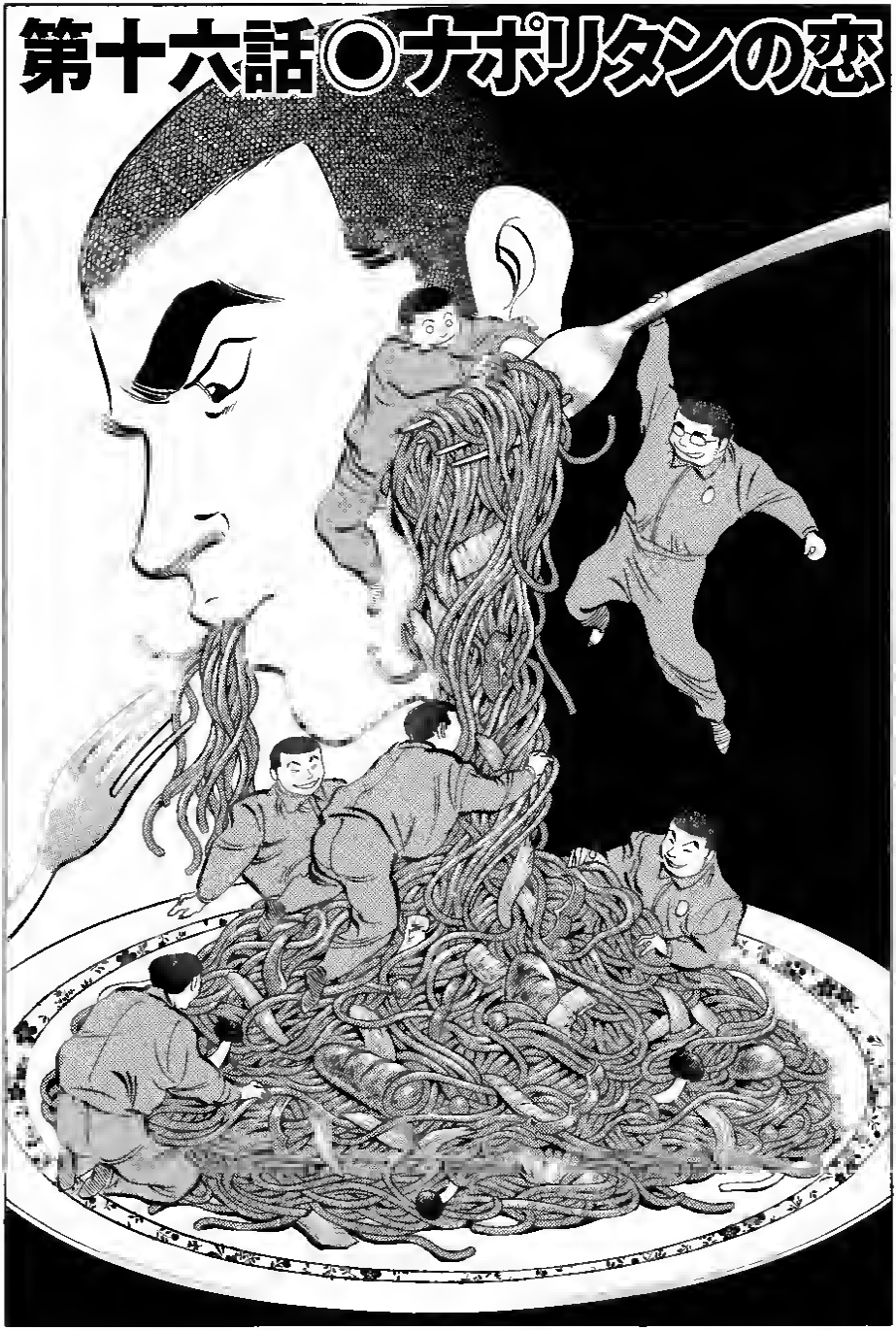
YES!!
I GOT FIVE POINTS!
ゴクッ
GULP
WHY DON'T YOU GULP LIKE EVERYONE ELSE? DON'T BE SHY. THAT WOULD GET ME A PERFECT SCORE!
YOU, ARE DISQUALIFIED!
ガシッ
BAM!

YOU MUST CONVEY YOUR TASTEFUL EXPERIENCE BY DESCRIBING A CERTAIN SITUATION...
A YUMMY STORY IS NOT JUST FOR MAKING NOISES IN PEOPLE'S THROATS.
THERE WAS A CAFE THAT I USED TO GO TO WHEN I WAS YOUNG...
THEY HAD MOST DELICIOUS FOOD THAT I'VE EVER EATEN...
SIGH...
MAEDA, YOU'RE THIRD AREN'T YOU?
YEP.

第十五話◉終

NAPOLITAN IN LOVE

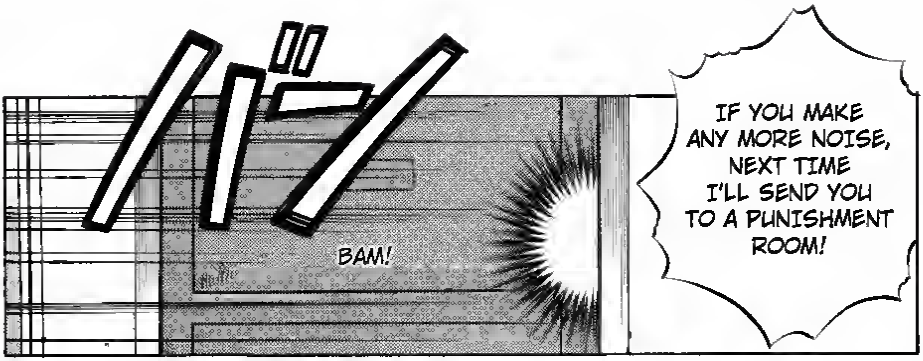
第十六話○ナポリタンの恋



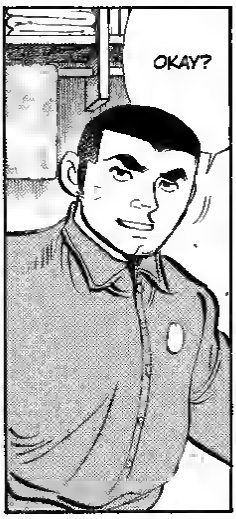
TOKOROTEN'S ACID CHOKES YOU!
SO SOUR!
PICKLED PLUMS AND SCALLIONS ARE EVEN BETTER!

YES!! I GOT FIVE POINTS!
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
YOU ARE DISQUALIFIED!
BAM!
YOU MUST CONVEY YOUR TASTEFUL EXPERIENCE BY DESCRIBING A CERTAIN SITUATION...
A YUMMY STORY IS NOT JUST FOR MAKING NOISES IN PEOPLE'S THROATS.
307
YEP.
MAEDA, YOU'RE THIRD, AREN'T YOU?
SIGH...
THE MOST DELICIOUS FOOD THAT I'VE EVER EATEN WAS...

RATTLE
CAFE'S
SPAGHETTI NAPOLITAN!
BAM
FOOTSTEPS
WE WERE ARGUING ABOUT WHETHER PICKLED PLUMS OR SCALLIONS WOULD BE MORE ACIDIC.
S-SIR,
HUH?
OF COURSE IT'S PICKLED PLUMS!
WHY IS THERE SO MUCH NOISE!?


バン
BAM!
IF YOU MAKE ANY MORE NOISE, NEXT TIME I'LL SEND YOU TO A PUNISHMENT ROOM!

SILENCE...


OKAY?

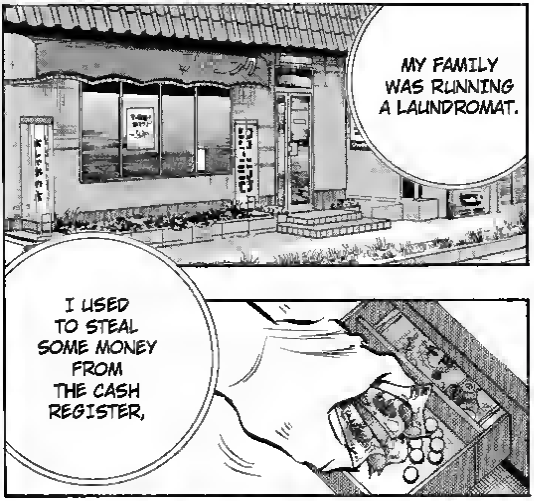
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

LET'S CONTINUE.

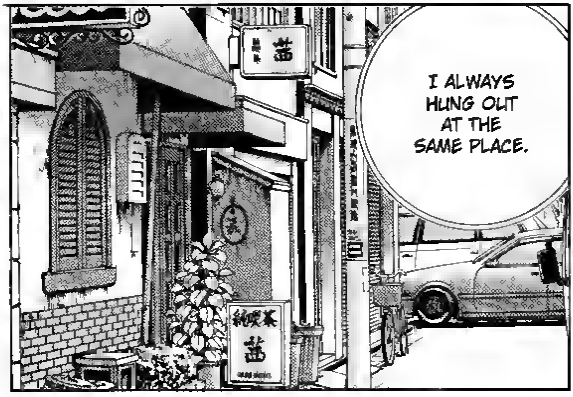
I CANCEL WHAT I SAID BEFORE.
②原 鉄也
①岡田 吉宏
I'M DISQUALIFIED, SO I DON'T WANNA' CONTINUE.
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE CHANCE.
YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF A YUMMY STORY, SO YOU'RE NO LONGER DISQUALIFIED.
ALRIGHT MAEDA, CONTINUE YOUR STORY.
GOT IT!
REALLY?
COOL!
④
③
②原
①岡田
YOU'LL HAVE TO GO LAST THOUGH.

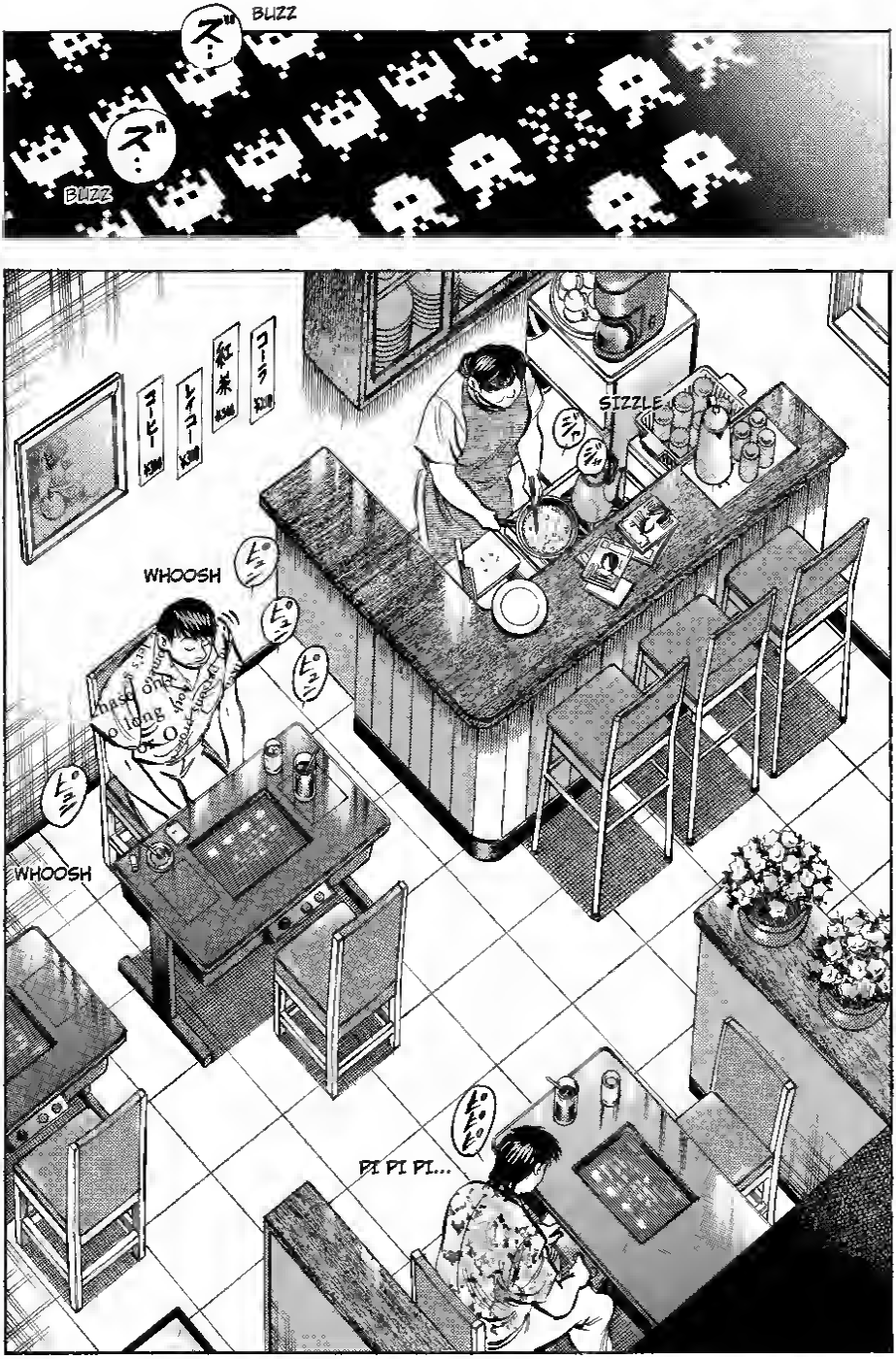
AFTER I DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL, I DIDN'T HAVE MCUH TO DO DAY TO DAY.
IT WAS OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO,

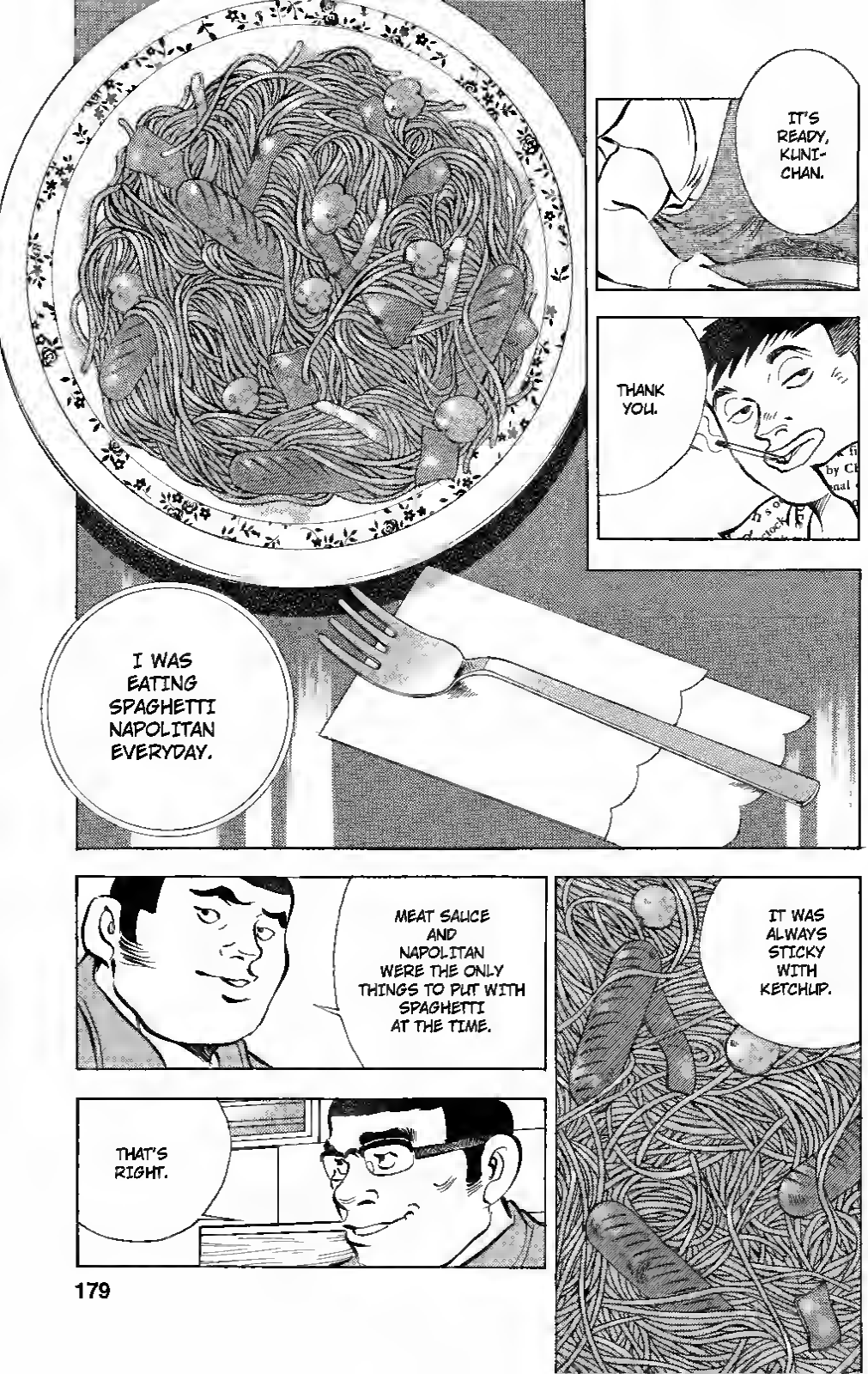
AND JUST GO OUT.


MY FAMILY WAS RUNNING A LAUNDROMAT.
I USED TO STEAL SOME MONEY FROM THE CASH REGISTER,

純喫茶
茁
THE INVADER GAME WAS VERY POPULAR AT THE TIME, SO I WENT TO PLAY IT AT A CAFE IN THE TOWN OVER.


茁
純喫茶
茁
I ALWAYS HUNG OUT AT THE SAME PLACE.


BUZZ
BUZZ
コーラ ¥300
紅茶 ¥300
レイコー ¥300
コーヒー ¥300
SIZZLE
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
PI PI PI...


IT'S READY, KUNI-CHAN.
THANK YOU.
I WAS EATING SPAGHETTI NAPOLITAN EVERYDAY.
MEAT SAUCE AND NAPOLITAN WERE THE ONLY THINGS TO PUT WITH SPAGHETTI AT THE TIME.
IT WAS ALWAYS STICKY WITH KETCHUP.
THAT'S RIGHT.

SHIT! I BIT MY TONGUE!
PEPERON-SOMETHING OR CARBON...
NOWADAYS, THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF SPAGHETTI ALL WITH VERY FASHIONABLE NAMES.
SOMETIMES IT COMES WITH HAMBURGER,
NAPOLITAN IS JUST ENOUGH FOR US.
OR IT CAN BE PUT IN HOT DOG BUNS.

I DON'T LIKE IT, WHEN...
THAT CAN'T BE DONE WITH OTHER KINDS OF SPAGHETTI.
I WOULDN'T WANT TO EAT BREAD WITH MEAT SAUCE IN IT.
SOME DINERS SERVE ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF MEAT SAUCE OVER A LARGE AMOUNT OF PASTA.
THE SAUCE DOESN'T SPREAD OVER IT EQUALLY.
I HAD AN ARGUMENT WITH A CURRY RESTAURANT WHEN THEY SERVED ME A VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF CURRY SAUCE!
I REMEMBER!
WHEN I ASKED THEM TO ADD MORE SAUCE, THEY TOLD ME THAT I HAD TO PAY EXTRA FOR IT.

THE CAFE WAS RUN BY THE LADY,
AND SHE HAD OTHER MENU OPTIONS.
GUYS, IT'S NOT YOUR TURN TO TALK.
ACTUALLY, IT WASN'T THAT YUMMY.
...SO, IS YOUR STORY ABOUT THE YUMMY NAPOLITAN?
I PUT A LOT OF TABASCO ON IT.
DROP
BUT THE NAPOLITAN WAS AN ESPECIALLY LARGE SERVING, CONSIDERING THE PRICE.

ズズ
SLURP
LICK
THE AREA AROUND MY MOUTH WAS ALL STICKY.
SURE! IT'S GOTTA BE RED SAUSAGES FOR NAPOLITAN.
THE INGREDIENTS WERE CHEAP RED SAUSAGES,
SOME PEOPLE USE FISH MEAT, SAUSAGES, OR HAM.
GREEN PEPPER, AND SOME MUSHROOMS.

IN ACTUALITY, THE REASON WHY I WAS GOING TO THE CAFE WAS...
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
ANYWAY, THE CAFE'S NAPOLITAN SPAGHETTI ALWAYS SATISFIED MY TUMMY.
I'M BACK!
HAVE YOU BECOME A MASTER OF "NAGOYA-UCHI?"
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
AH... NOT YET...
THANK YOU FOR THE DELIVERY.
HERE'S THE MONEY FOR THE SANDWICHES AND THE COFFEE.

SHE WAS TWO OR THREE YEARS OLDER THAN ME.
AND SUPER CUTE.
HAHA HA
I ACTUALLY WANTED TO SEE THE GIRL WHO WAS WORKING THERE.
GOOD LUCK!
BUZZ...
BUZZ...
BUZZ...
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
I'M GONNA BE AN EXPERT OF "NAGOYA-UCHI!"
JINGLE
ONE DAY...
Seed

HELLO.
SHE WAS IN THE KITCHEN.
I SEE...
I MADE MY VOICE SOUND SAD, BUT INSIDE I WAS ACTUALLY VERY HAPPY.
WHERE'S THE USUAL LADY?
SHE WAS HOSPITALIZED YESTERDAY, SO I'LL BE MANAGING THE PLACE FOR A WHILE.
HERE YOU GO.
HUH!?
BUZZ
I WANTED TO LOOK REALLY COOL BY WINNING THE VIDEO GAME.
I WAS THINKING ABOUT TAKING HER OUT, SO I DESPERATELY PLAYED THE GAME.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH

SHE BROUGHT ME A PLATE OF NAPOLITAN SPAGHETTI.
SMILE
THANK YOU.
NAPOLITAN THAT SHE MADE.
WHILE I WAS EATING IT, I FELT LIKE I WAS GOING TO HEAVEN.
SLURP

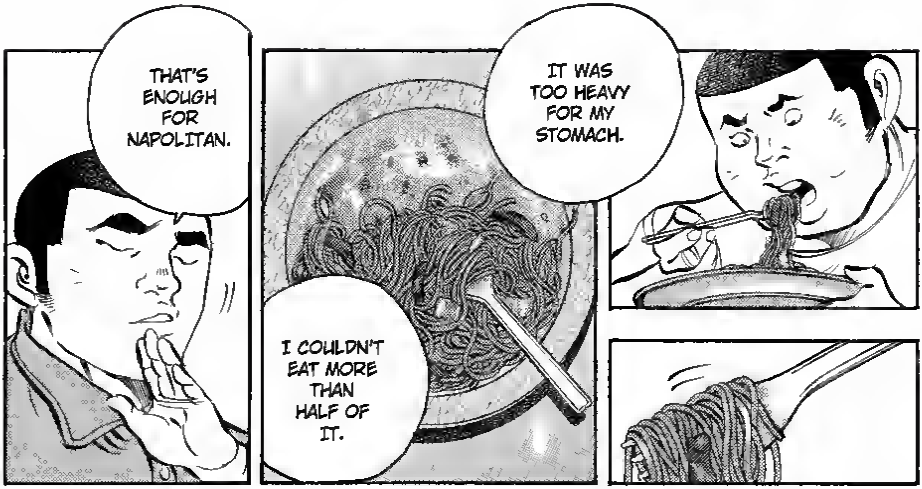
SLURP
……
……

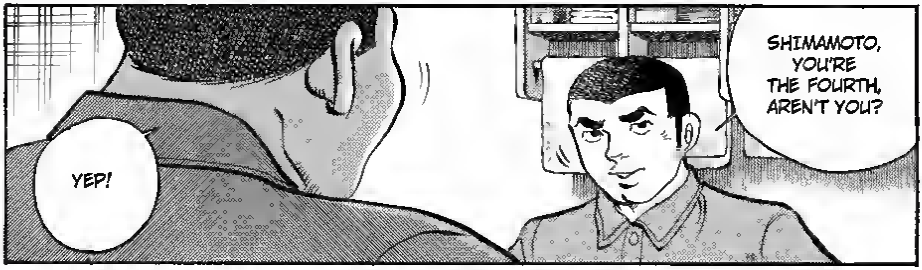
ウォッ!!
UGH!!
RATTLE
カシャ
SHE PUT TOO MUCH OIL IN IT. IT WAS JUST A MIX OF KETCHUP AND OIL.
I-IT WAS AWFUL!!
ズル
SLURP
ショボ ショボ
POUR
ウッ!
UHH!

GULP
ゴクッ
THEN, I FINALLY REALIZED THAT...
AWW... EVEN AFTER THIRTY YEARS, IT STILL MAKES ME SICK BY JUST REMEMBERING IT.
フー
THE LADY'S NAPOLITAN, WHICH I HAD BEEN EATING WITHOUT MUCH APPRECIATION, WAS ACTUALLY VERY GOOD.

HOW ABOUT THAT? YOU GUYS MUST BE HUNGRY FOR NAPOLITAN.
UH...
YOU TALKED ABOUT BAD FOOD IN SUCH A REALISTIC WAY...
I FEEL LIKE MY MOUTH IS FILLED WITH OIL...
DISGUSTING...
MAEDA GETS ZERO POINTS!
YOU HAD TO EXPRESS HOW GOOD THE NAPOLITAN WAS.
YOU COULD HAVE EARNED SOME POINTS, IT JUST DEPENDS ON THE WAY YOU TALK.

I WAS TRYING TO DO THAT IN THE BEGINNING...
BUT WHILE I WAS TALKING, I STARTED TO GET CONFUSED.
WHEN I FIRST HEARD "NAPOLITAN" IT GOT MY ATTENTION, BUT...
I'M NOT SURE IF IT TASTES GOOD ANYMORE.
I REMEMBER MUCH MORE ABOUT BAD FOOD...
TRUE...
AT CONVENIENCE STORES, THEY SELL NAPOLITAN AS "GOOD OLD NAPOLITAN".
I ATE IT BEFORE COMING TO PRISON.


THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NAPOLITAN.
I COULDN'T EAT MORE THAN HALF OF IT.
IT WAS TOO HEAVY FOR MY STOMACH.


YEP!
SHIMAMOTO, YOU'RE THE FOURTH, AREN'T YOU?

HE USED TO BE A SUMO WRESTLER.
CONSIDERING THAT, HIS FOOD MUST BE...

CHANKONABE, THE HOT POT STEW.
I JOINED A SUMO STABLE CALLED TOUKEN-BEYA, WHICH WAS FAMOUS FOR THEIR HARD TRAINING.
東軒部屋
THUD

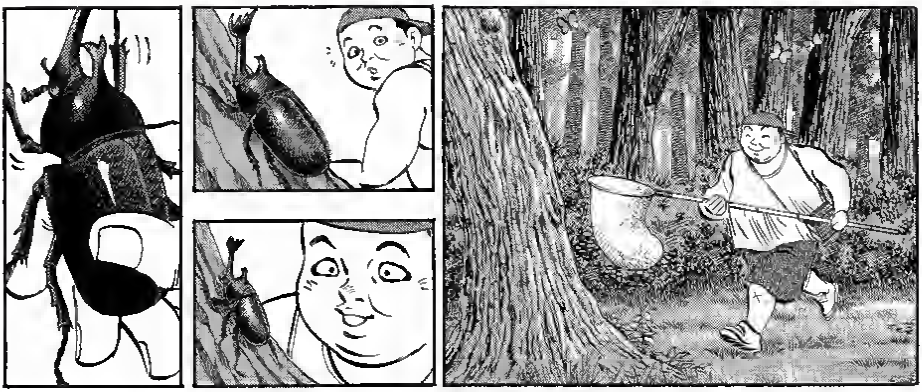
第十六話◉終

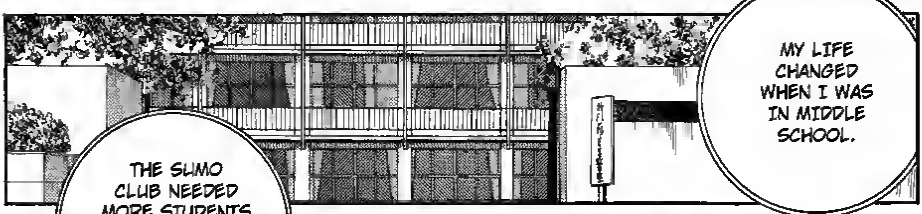
FIGHTING SPIRIT FOR RICE OMELETTES

I JOINED A SUMO STABLE CALLED TOUKEN-BEYA, WHICH WAS FAMOUS FOR THEIR HARD TRAINING.
YOU SEEM TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THEM.
THERE WERE ALSO WELL-KNOWN WRESTLERS LIKE IIDAGAWA AND ICHIGATANI.
THE MASTER WAS A FAMOUS OZEKI, KAGURAYAMA...

I USED TO MANAGE ABOUT A MILLION YEN EVERY TIME,
!
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH SUMO GAMBLING.
YOU WERE CHARGED FOR ILLEGAL GAMBLING, WEREN'T YOU?
I DID EVERYTHING. THINGS LIKE HORSE RACING, BICYCLE RACING, BOAT RACING AND BASEBALL GAMES.
HEH HEH HEH
AND I THREW A PARTY EVERY NIGHT.

I WASN'T INTENDING TO BE A SUMO WRESTLER AT ALL.
MY DREAM WAS TO BE AN INSECT SCHOLAR.
COUGH
WELL, LET'S GET BACK TO THE STORY.
I GREW UP IN A COUNTRYSIDE SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS.
IT WAS A TREASURY OF INSECTS.
I-INSECT SCHOLAR?!
WITH YOUR PHYSICAL STATURE?
I KNOW, EVERY-BODY REACTED IN THE SAME WAY.




MY LIFE CHANGED WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THE SUMO CLUB NEEDED MORE STUDENTS IN ORDER TO ENTER THE PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT.
THEY PERSUADED ME TO JOIN THE CLUB.

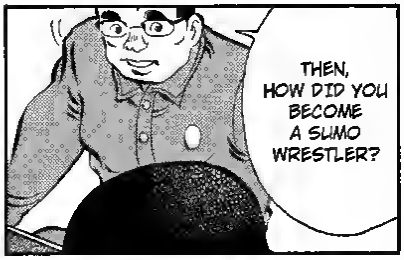
I HATED BEING NAKED AND WEARING THE SUMO WRESTLER'S LOINCLOTH.
BUT, IT WASN'T RIGHT TO REJECT THEIR INVITATION.

THEY MADE ME GO FIRST, AS A VANGUARD.
CHEER
MY OPPONENT WAS HUGE.
BAM
I SLAMMED INTO HIM WITH ALL MY MIGHT.
T-THREE MORE!?
AFTER THAT, I DEFEATED THREE MORE OPPONENTS.
AND HE FELL OUT OF THE RING.
THAT'S GREAT!

MY PICTURE WAS IN THE NEWSPAPER THE NEXT MORNING.
相撲県大会
○○中学準優勝
一年生部員大活躍！
島本 譲 君

BUT MY GOAL WAS TO BE AN INSECT SCHOLAR,
SO I REJECTED ALL OF THEM.

SUMO STABLES CAME TO SCOUT ME RIGHT AWAY.
HIGH-SCHOOLS ALSO OFFERED ME ADMISSIONS BASED ON RECOMMEN-DATION.


THEN, HOW DID YOU BECOME A SUMO WRESTLER?

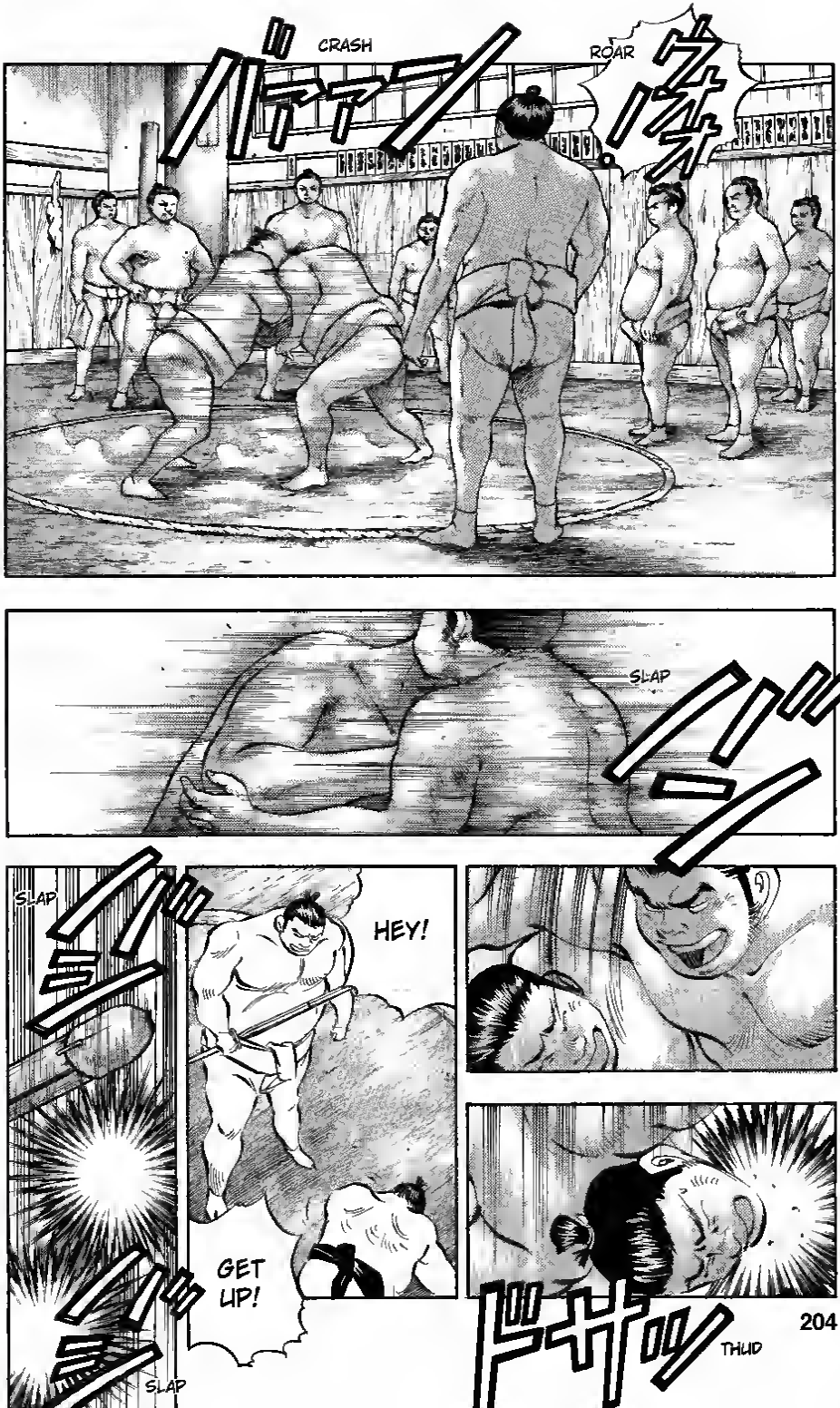
WHEN I WAS AN ELEVENTH GRADER, MY FATHER BECAME A COSIGNER ON SOMEONE ELSE'S LOAN.
HE GAINED A THREE MILLION YEN DEBT.

THE MASTER, KAGURAYAMA, HADN'T GIVEN UP ON ME YET,
AND HE OFFERED TO SETTLE MY FATHER'S DEBT.
島本
MY FATHER AGREED WITHOUT HESITATION AND SENT ME TO TOUKEN-BEYA.
I HAD TO DROP OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL BECAUSE OF MY FATHER'S DEBT.
ガンバレ!島本君
I WAS SENT FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE OF HYOGO TO THE SUMO STABLE IN TOKYO

C'MON, CHILL OUT.
LET'S CONTINUE. WE STILL HAVE TIME.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR YUMMY STORY?
UH... WELL,

AS I SAID BEFORE, TOUKEN-BEYA WAS FAMOUS FOR THEIR HARD TRAINING.
東軒部屋

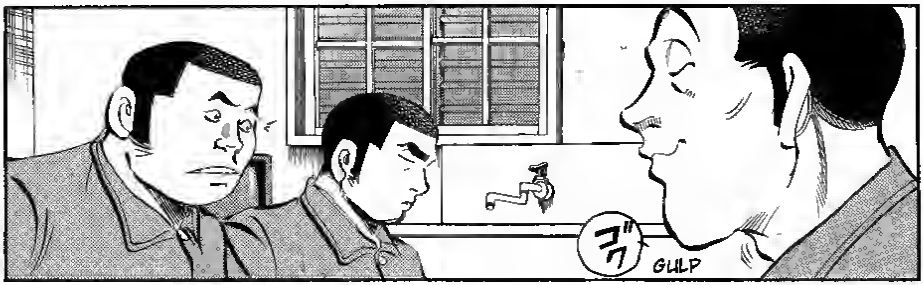
ROAR


CRASH
ROAR
SLAP
SLAP
HEY!
GET UP!
SLAP
THUD

SLAP
SLAP
TRAINING WAS MUCH HARDER THAN I EXPECTED, AND I SCARED OUT OF MY MIND AS SOON AS I JOINED THEM.
THE TRAINING ITSELF WAS HARD ENOUGH, BUT A YOUNG MAN LIKE ME ALSO HAD A LOT OF OTHER STUFF TO THINK ABOUT.
BOIL
BOIL
DURING CHANKO, THE HOT POT STEW, I HAD TO SERVE THE OLDER WRESTLERS.
IT'S HARD IF YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING IN THE MORNING.
GROWL

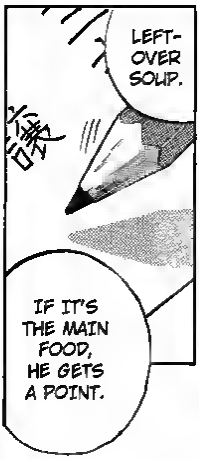
POUR
WE'D POUR THE SOUP OVER RICE.
WHEN IT'S OUR TURN TO EAT, THERE'S ONLY SOUP LEFT IN THE POT.
MUNCH
MUNCH
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT OTHER STABLES.
BUT, TOUKEN-BEYA WAS LIKE THAT.
W-WAIT A SEC.
NOWADAYS, YOUNG OR OLD, EVERYBODY EATS THE SAME THING. THAT'S WHAT I'VE READ.
HEH HEH HEH
YEAH, NOT ONLY CHANKO, BUT THEY ALSO EAT HAMBURGER AND STEAK...

THE SOUP HAD A LOT OF NUTRITION IN IT FOR SURE.
WITH THE LEFTOVER SOUP, I GAINED TWENTY TWO POUNDS AND GREW TWO INCHES IN ONLY TWO MONTHS.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

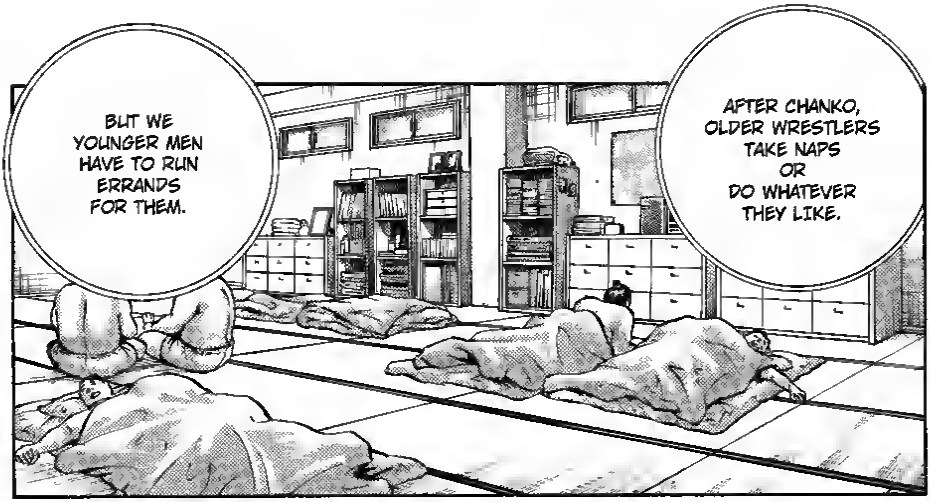

GULP

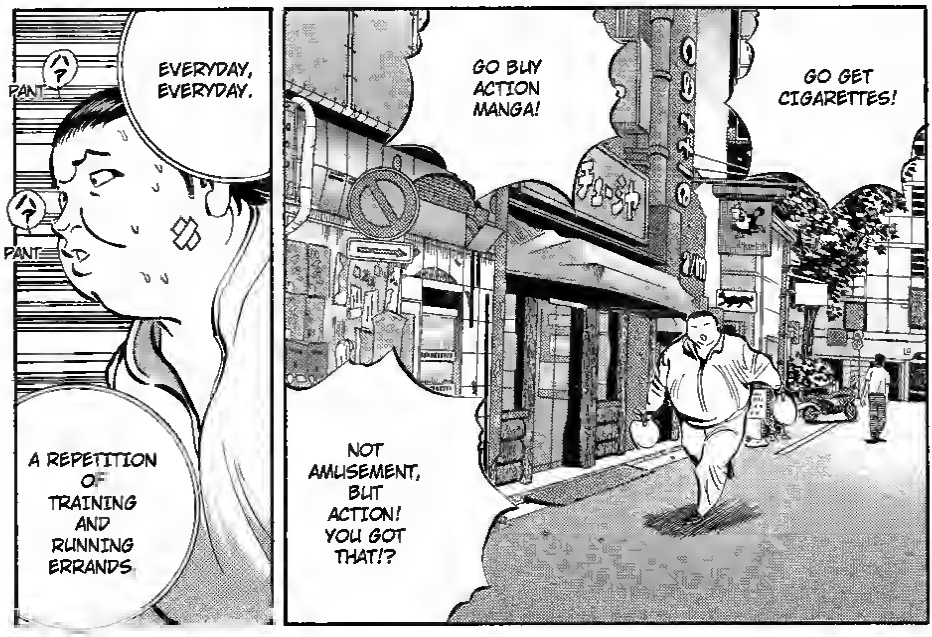
NO, NO.
IS THAT YOUR YUMMY FOOD?

DIDN'T YOUR THROAT GROWL?
HARA!


IF IT'S THE MAIN FOOD, HE GETS A POINT.
LEFT-OVER SOUP.

IT SOUNDED YUMMY.


BUT WE YOUNGER MEN HAVE TO RUN ERRANDS FOR THEM.
AFTER CHANKO, OLDER WRESTLERS TAKE NAPS OR DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE.


PANT
PANT
EVERYDAY, EVERYDAY.
A REPETITION OF TRAINING AND RUNNING ERRANDS
GO BUY ACTION MANGA!
GO GET CIGARETTES!
NOT AMUSEMENT, BUT ACTION! YOU GOT THAT!?

AFTER HALF A YEAR SINCE I JOINED THE STABLE,

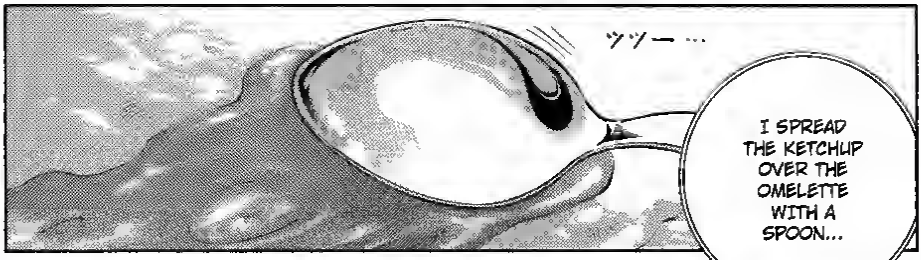
THERE WAS ANOTHER DAY THAT I WAS OUT AGAIN FOR SOME ERRANDS.
BUT I DIDN'T WANNA' GO BACK TO THE STABLE ANYMORE.
I WAS STARING AT A DRONE BEETLE ON A FLOWER POT IN A BACK ALLEY.
ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN BE LOLLYGAGGING AROUND HERE?
STARTLED!
ドクッ!

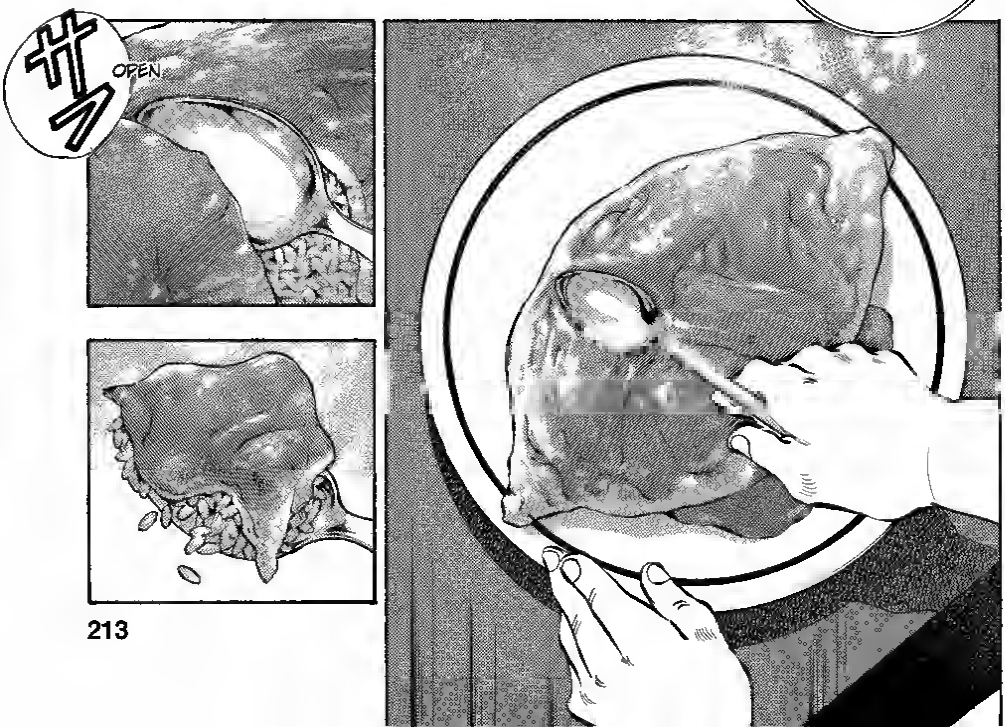
YOU MUST BE A YOUNG MAN FROM TOUKEN-BEYA.
IF THEY FIND YOU DAWDLING HERE, THEY'LL GET UPSET.
I WAS STARTLED BY THE SUDDEN VOICE, BUT...
I HADN'T HEARD A SOUTHERN DIALECT FOR A WHILE, AND IT MADE ME WANNA' JUST GIVE UP.
GROWL...
YOU FEEL WEAK BECAUSE YOU'RE HUNGRY.
I'M NOT GOING BACK ANYMORE.
I'M QUITTING!

アルバイト求む
snack
眞美
I'LL COOK SOMETHING FOR YOU. COME INSIDE.
AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH...
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
SHE WAS THE OWNER OF A SNACK BAR.
GOOD SMELLS CAME FROM THE KITCHEN.
SNIFF
SNIFF
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
HERE YOU GO.

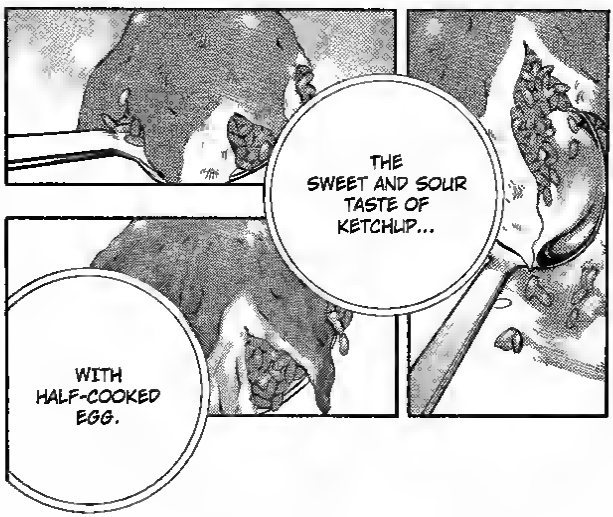
IT WAS A RICE OMELETTE. THE COLOR OF THE KETCHUP ON IT LOOKED BEAUTIFUL.
GRAB

SHIMAMOTO'S YUMMY FOOD IS
A RICE OMELETTE...!

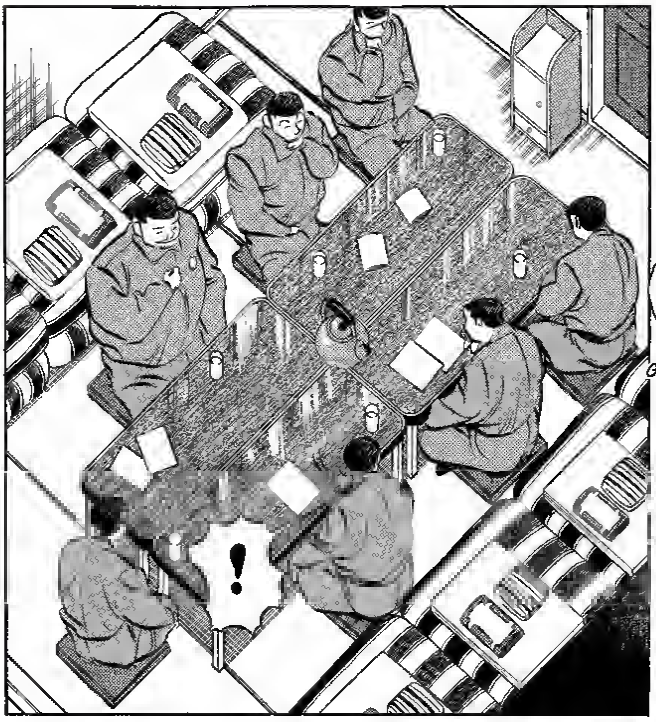

ツツー…
I SPREAD THE KETCHUP OVER THE OMELETTE WITH A SPOON...


サク
OPEN

MUNCH
MUNCH
HOT
BLOW
HOT
YUMMY!
おいしっ!!


THE SWEET AND SOUR TASTE OF KETCHUP...
WITH HALF-COOKED EGG.
REALLY?
GLAD YOU LIKE IT.

AND THE CHICKEN FRIED RICE INSIDE.
MUNCH
HOT
THEY MIXED TOGETHER IN MY MOUTH...
DIG
DIG
THAT WAS THE MOST DELICIOUS FOOD I'VE EVER EATEN!
MUNCH
THE BEST!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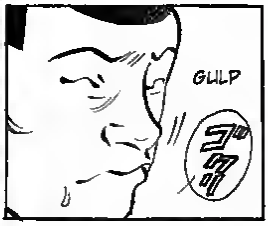
ゴク
GULP

ゴク
GULP


GULP
ゴク

WHEN I HEARD RICE OMELETTE, IT STRUCK ME A BIT,
BUT MAEDA'S STORY WAS STILL MAKING ME SICK WITH THE THOUGHT OF OIL.
④島本議
⑤木
ぎ

SHIMAMOTO, YOU GOT THREE POINTS!

SORRY...
IF WE HADN'T HEARD MAEDA'S STORY, HE WOULD'VE GOTTEN FIVE POINTS!
ME TOO.
WELL ANYWAY...
RICE OMELETTES STIMULATE OUR APPETITE, JUST LIKE PORK KATSU DON DOES.
EVEN WHEN I INTEND TO ORDER SOMETHING ELSE FROM THE MENU, SOMETIMES I STILL END UP ASKING FOR A RICE OMELETTE.
THEN, SHE TOLD ME SOMETHING WHEN I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE,
SHIMAMOTO, YOU HIT THE SPOT.
I ATE THE RICE OMELETTE WITHOUT STOPPING AT ALL,

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE RING!
GOOD LUCK!
WHEN I HEARD THAT, I REALIZED HOW MUCH OF A COWARD I WAS, AND STARTED TO CRY.

HEY...
IS HE STILL CONTINUING HIS STORY?

I BEGAN DEVOTING MYSELF TO TRAINING THE NEXT DAY.
I WENT TO HER PLACE TO EAT RICE OMELETTES FROM TIME TO TIME.

第十七話◉終

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GOKUDOUMESHI 2

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極道めし2

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